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ACC premiers to meet Tuesday

AMMAN (I.T.) — The heads of government of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will meet in Baghdad Tuesday to look into ways for coordinating foreign policies and review developments in the region Arab World, according to ACC Secretary General Hilland Nameser. Nameser said that the ministerial meeting would discuss 12 agreements covering cooperation and coordination among Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen in industrial, agriculture, trade and science as well as in civil aviation, transport and religious affairs. The ministerial meeting will refer the outcome of the meeting to the ACC semmit, which will be held in Assuman in the coming month. Tuesday's meeting was paved for by senior officials from the four countries at a two-day meeting in the iraqi capital. Namemar said that among the subjects discussed by the officials were the situations in the Gulf and in Lebanon. He said that the 12 agreements were prepared by experts of the four countries over the past months. Baghdad also plays host now to a meeting by the heads of central statistics departments in the ACC countries.

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Azeri rampage Is 25 in Baku

acros Moscow (Agencies) - An anti-Armenian rampage through grage broadcast. "Among the the capital of Soviet Azerbaijan crowd, anti-Armenian alogans left 25 people dead, most of them rmenians, and another 26 tomed, official moder said Spader

One witness told the Associated Press she had seen two women thrown from belcomes. The Sarurday night killings in Baku were the worst outbreak in mearly two years of Armenian-Azerbaijani violence, the bloodiest of the ethnic conflicts that plague the Soviet Union.

The rampage prompted a call in Armenia for people who possess firearms to volunteer to be flown to Azerbaijan.

The mostly Christian Atmenia and predominantly Muslim Azerbuijan have been locked in a fend over control of Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave of about ties 160,000 people who are mostly ethnic Armenian but which has been under Azerbaijan's control The since 1923.

Radio Moscow said the Saturday rampage began after two Azerbaijanis visited an Armenian family and demanded they leave 17 at the city. The family attacked the Azerbaijanis with an axe, killing x , one and senously injuring the to at other, the report said.

18 ML News of the killing was announced at a Saturday night 20 m rally attended by about 150,000 12 xo people, the radio said.

"Calls were made at the rally to of the drive the Armenians out of the 35 80 city," the radio's correspondent 05 are reported from the Caspian Sea

O 3 to port city.
O to When the rally ended the 10 an crowd began to disperse," Radio

By Michael Putzei

The Associated Press

MOSCOW - President

Mikhail Gorbachev's dropping

of his staunch opposition to a

multiparty system is a logical

extension of his drive to permit

a broader expression and com-

petitive elections for public

ment Saturday that he can "see

no tragedy in a multiparty sys-

tem" constitutes a recognition

of existing political reality in

some Soviet republics, it could

spawn fractions, ethnic-

oriented parties with little con-

It also might doom the 70-

year-old Communist political

apparatus that operates para-

liei to — and wields more

power than — the government

at all levels of Soviet society.

The Kreinlin's Eastern

European allies have chal-

lenged their own Communist

leaders in recent months, and

those countries have moved far

away from the monopolies that

used to be held by the ruling

But in the Soviet Union.

political cliques.

cern for the union.

But while Gorbachev's state-

office.

were shouted, and then the most terrible thing of all began -- the

TASS reported that the situation in a number of districts had "gone out of control."

"Gangs of hooligans have been committing structures. Preliminary information puts the number of dead at 25 in 50 separate pogronos," the agency said.

TASS reported that several Dynahin-76 transport planes carrying troops from the Interior Ministry's Dzerzhinsky Division had flown into Baku from Moscow early Sunday to try to restore

Eduard Shakhnazaryan, an editor at the official Armenian news seency Armenpress, told Reuters by telephone from the republic's capital, Yerevan, that 30 people had been killed in the Bakn riots, all Armenians. "Three were burned slive after

petrol was poured over them. One of them was a pregnant woman," he said. Radio said 53 spertments were wrecked in the rampage. The

situation in the city 2,000 kilometres southeast of Moscow remains tense, its Baku correspopdent said. "Operational bulletins con-

stantly contain reports about hostages being taken, both Armenians and Azerbaijanis, about exchanges of fire, about tragic events," said the correspondent. "The republic is on the boil. Hearts are bleeding and the mili-

where the first democratic re-

forms began nearly five years

ago, Gorbachev and the top

leadership have steadfastly re-

fused to relinquish the party's

position as the only legally

Members of the Democratic

Union, a tiny but outspoken

group that brazenly calls itself

an opposition party, have been

routinely subjected to deten-

tion, arrest and even beatings

by authorities, who have

learned to tolerate many other

Since the Communists

obliterated their political

opposition in the first years

after the Bolshevik revolution

in 1917, the ruling party has

controlled not just the political

sohere but all walks of life.

Party membership was a prere-

quisite to professional

advancement. Party officials

determined what children were

taught, what people could read

The party, now 20 million

and where they could work.

strong, also served as a uni-

fying force, bringing together

and exercising power over the

more than 100 nationalities

and ethnic groups that make

forms of dissent.

recognised political entity.

tis is trying to do everything it

He said he had been told that reinforcements were on the way. "But what guarantee is there that the frightful thing which took place yesterday evening and last night will not be repeated?" be asked. "Serious, serious measures are needed."

Azerbaijani authorities reached Sunday by telephone trom Moscow confirmed there had been people killed in unrest the night before, but claimed the situation was under control.

A duty officer at the Azerbaiinni Communist Party's Central Committee, Kamal Abdulayev. said the number of victims was not clear. He repeated charges made at the Saturday rally that Armenians in helicopters were firing on Azerbaijani villages in a district near Nagomo-Karabakh.

The duty officer at the republic's Interior Ministry, which is responsible for law enforcement, said Baku "was and is normal." He imng up before he could be asked his name.

Azerbaijani People's Front spokesman Khalid Mukhtarov denied knowing of any noting. When told that Pravda, the Commanist Party daily, had printed the TASS dispatch about the Hooligan rampages, he charged that the newspaper always printed lies about Azerbaijan.

In Nagorno-Karabakh itself, violence also continues, with the special Interior Ministry troops who have been sent in to preserve order now becoming targets for attack. TASS said.

up the vast Soviet Union.

Opponents of multiparty

rule have suggested that if the

Communist monopoly were

broken, the union would disin-

tegrate into dozens of paroc-

hial parties vying for the sup-

port of the narrow ethnic

groups concentrated in each

day before conceding he would

be willing to tolerate other

political parties. Gorbachev

warned of the hazards of such a

system and argued that the

Communist Party could serve

as a forum for multiple views.

known during our long life that

even with 10 or 20 parties the

most cruel dictatorship formed

and flourished?" he asked dur-

ing a visit to a collective farm

in independence-minded

"And will a multiparty sys-

tem save society? No, it is the

regime that determines who

lives how and who breathes

only one Communist Party of

the Soviet Union how many

opinions we have. And how

"Just look," he added, "with

itimania.

how." he said.

"Haven't you and I seen and

As recently as Friday, only a

republic and region.

Gorbachev's opening to multi-party

system a recognition of political reality



A demonstrator holds an anti-Soviet poster as another shouts slogans through a loudspeaker during the visit this week of Soviet leader Mikhail Gurbachev to Lithuania.

Velayati: Decision on Soviet mediation soon

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Sunday that Tehran would announce a final decision soon on the Soviet Union's offer to mediate in deadlocked peace talks with Iraq, Tehran Radio re-

ported. The state radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Velayati as saying the Iranians will consider "positively" Moscow's proposal and that its decision will be submitted to a senior Soviet envoy who will visit Tehran soon. Velavati said that "Iran accepts the proposal in principle," but warned that "it must not in any way undermine" the United Nations Security Council resolution that brought a cease-fire in the

Peace talks began five days later, but have stalled on disputes over troop withdrawals, exchange of prisoners and sovereignty of the Shatt Al Arab waterway that forms the southern boundary between the two countries.

eight-year Gulf war Aug. 20.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov announced last week that Tehran and Baghdad had responded to Moscow's offer to mediate the

Moscow has stressed that its proposal does not mean that the United Nations, which had been mediating the talks, had been

Velayati stressed Sunday that "the Soviet Union's role must be to strengthen the duties and efforts" of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

An Iranian daily Sunday expressed optimism at the Soviet proposal and said that "the fact that both parties to the conflict have declared their willingness to explore the proposals sincerely strengthens the chances of its success."

The Soviets have close links with Baghdad. They were Iraq's main arms supplier during the

But Moscow and Tehran have moved closer over the last two years and signed a \$6 billion economic agreement last year. This has given Moscow some leverage with the Iranians.

Gazan dies from Israeli gunfire

OCCUPIED GAZA (Agencies) - A Palestinian from the Israelioccupied Gaza Strip died Sunday three weeks after troops shot him in the neck, his son told Reuters. Marwan Al Arekhawi said

troops in Rafah refugee camp shot his father Abdallah as he tried to take a seriously wounded protester to hospital. Military sources said Arekhawi senior was shot during an army

swoop on masked protesters in the camp. They did not suggest he was himself masked. Army regulations allow troops to fire on masked Arabs who fail

to stop when ordered. Arekhawi was the 613th Palestinian killed by Israeli forces

or civilians since the December 1987 outbreak of the uprising. Rafah shops closed Tuesday in a spontaneous protest strike as

news of Arekhawi's death spread. Troops in the West Bank town of Ramallah shot and wounded two teenage girls during protests by residents, Palestinian sources

The Israeli army said it was suspending two para-military border policemen and would prosecute two soldiers over the fatal shooting of a masked Palestinian in the West Bank town of Bethlehem last month.

Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, head of the army's central command, ordered an investigation into the shooting of Fadi Al Zabakli, 22, after the U.S. television network ABC broadcast CUI-Off footage of the incident which contradicted the army's version of events.

The army said protesters were armed with axes, and soldiers fired warning shots in the air. But the ABC footage showed Palestinians hurling only stones and one soldier firing directly at the pro-

The army also said the soldiers opened fire when the masked Arabs ignored orders to halt.

In clashes in the Gaza Strip Saturday, troops shot and wounded 11 stone-throwing protesters, hospital officials said.

Two Palestinians were killed by unknown but it was unclear if they were murdered for nationalist or criminal motives.

Hospital officials said a 54vear-old man was stabbed to death in Gaza City Saturday. Residents said he was not known as a collaborator with the Israeli occupation authorities and at least two of his sons were in prison for anti-Israeli activity in the uprising.

Gripping account of Soviet spy unveiled

MOSCOW (R) — A senior Soviet diplomat, who for almost 30 years passed defence secrets to U.S. intelligence under the nose of the KGB, has been sentenced to death in Moscow.

It was unclear whether the sentence had been carried out. The Communist Party daily Pravda outlined Sunday the remarkable career of "Donald." whose exploits included secret radio transmissions to the U.S. embassy from a passing Moscow trolleybus and dead drops along narrow streets of the old city centre.

The newspaper said Donald, who was recruited while working at the Soviet U.N. mission in New York and also held diplomatic posts in Burma and India, passed secret plans for defence against biological and chemical weapons to his U.S. handlers.

Other items included diplomatic codes, nuclear weapons doctrine and civil defence prepara-

Pravda suggested Donald did considerable damage to the Soviet defence and security

"Having access to many state secrets, Donald was trading in everything the U.S. intelligence services were interested in. "With an excellent education and as a teacher in one of the academies, he was an expert in many questions," it said, without giving any more details.

Communications featured innocuous messages placed in the advertising columns of the New York Times — "Moody. Donald F. please write as you promised. Uncle Charles and sister Clara are ok." — and home-made the shortfall. magnetic containers to conceat documents.

Pravda said another paid announcement in the New York Times welcomed his posting to Rangoon: "I was extremely glad to learn that you were lucky. I will visit you soon. Everything is

That message was followed by visit to the Burmese capital by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) who passed Donald to a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) contact.

He was also given a special code phrase — "607 Madison Avenue" - in case he had to contact U.S. agents in an emergency, Pravda said.

According to the gripping account. Donald more than once attracted the attention of KGB counter-intelligence agents but managed to allay their suspicions with a cool head and meticulous

Baghdad seeks to reduce Euphrates

ANKARA (Agencies) — Iraq's oil minister, bearing a message from President Saddam Hussein, arrived here Sunday for discussions over Turkey's reduction of Euphrates riverflow towards Syria and Iraq.

The newspaper of Iraq's ruling Baath Socialist Party Sunday warned that relations between the neighbours could suffer if Turkey does not let the water flow fully.

The minister, Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi, declined to tell reporters the contents of the message from the Iraqi leader for

Turkish President Turgut Ozal. The Iraqi delegation was met at Ankara's Esenboga airport by State Minister Kamuran Inan.

Chalabi said his special mission would include discussions with Ozal and other Turkish officials of the move by Turkey to fill up a dam on the Euphrates River, whose flow reaches Syria and

Ozal Saturday pushed a button cutting the flow so that Turkey could fill up the giant Ataturk hydroelectric dam in southeast-

ern Turkey. Iraq sent its deputy foreign minister, Nizar Hamdoun, to Turkey last month to try to get the reduction in flow shortened from one month to two weeks.

Turkey refused, saying a month of river damming was needed. Hamdoun said the month-long reduction in water would damage

Iraci agriculture. Turks maintain that since November they have released extra water to Syria and Iraq for storage in reservoirs to ride out

Al Thawra said in an editorial Sunday that long-term loss of water would inflict great harm on

5.5 million Iraqis living in the Euphrates Basin unless Turkey handled the issue wisely. The newspaper called on Tur-

— Reduce the length of time it

diverts the river to 10 days or at most two weeks. — Increase other water flows while the dam fills.

— Speed up negotiations for an agreement on Euphrates waters with Iraq and Syria.

Chalabi told reporters: "We are confident that the Turkish side does not aim to harm Iraq by taking these measures. But continuation of the latest plan will certainly mean harming a great number of Iraqi citizens.

As well as being oil minister. Chalabi has special responsibility for negotiation with Turkey on other matters.

Leading German party calls for reunification EAST BERLIN (Agencies) mediately," the Social Democrats Berlin conference hall.

precautions.

East Germany's most influential opposition political party Sunday called for German unity, one day after joining forces with its sister party from Bonn. The Social Democrats' call

comes as the two German states take daily steps towards closer ties, despite insistence from East Germany's current Communist leadership that the country must remain independent. West German Chancellor Hel

mut Kohl travelled into East Berlin. The government press office in Bonn said Kohl's visit was "completely private" and East Germany's official news agency ADN said Kohl declined to specify the reason for his trip.

"Our political goal is a united Germany," the East German Social Democrats said in a statement Sunday morning at a party convention in East Berlin.

It said that if the Social Democrats lead the government after elections in May, they will undertake "the necessary steps on the way to German unity" in agreement with the government in

"Whatever is possible immediately, should happen im-

On Saturday, the East German Social Democrats joined forces with their leftist West German counterparts, who are in opposition to Kohl's Christian Democrats. The West Germans promised campaign support for their colleagues in East Berlin, making the Social Democrats a top contender when East Germans go to the polls in less than four months.

With 32,000 East German members, the Social Democrats are the largest opposition political party. The New Forum opposition

group, with an estimated 200,000 members, remains a diffuse organisation with conflicting goals and little interest in becoming a formal political party. The Social Democrats, scrub-

bed off the political map on the eastern side of defeated Nazi Germany in 1946, hopes to reclaim both its confiscated funds and its former voters from the Communists.

"We want German unity only with the agreement of all our neighbours," said a resolution passed almost unanimously by the 440 delegates at an East

"Their borders are inviolable."

it said, referring to Poland. Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union, all of which have territory once occupied or held by Ger-It said the initial aim would be

monetary and economic union with West Germany. Unification could follow only as part of the process of democratic and economic renewal in Europe.

West German SPD leader Hans-Jochen Vogel, one of several top members of his party to address the meeting, said: "A social democratic Germany would be a good neighbour."

His party, the main opposition force in West Germany, would help the East German SPD fight the country's first free elections in May through a joint committee that would give tactical advice and provide speakers such as former Chancellor Willy Brandt.

And to show it would not be a one-way street, top East German SPD member Steffen Reiche said: "If we win, then our sister party will win in the West." West Germany votes in general

elections in December.

Bulgarians demand resignation of Communists, fair chance in elections nearby countries like Romania.

15 15021A (Agencies) -- More than 50:000 Bulgarians chanting 1141 'Communists resign' demonsmated in Sofia's central square Sunday for more democratic repalliorms and a fair chance for the sylpposition in elections this year. Leaders of the pro-democracy All opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) read out demands ncluding two-step legislative As lections in May and November, ind the scrapping of a constituional provision guaranteeing the

Communist Party's leading role. The national assembly is to. rote Monday whether to strike the constitutional article, but it was unclear whether all three sections of the provision would be roted on immediately.

The protesters also demanded in end to party domination of the workplace, the police and the

"We're hearing of changes in

even Albania, so we demand democratic guarantees," shouted Peter Beron, a leading UDF spokesman. The crowd responded with cheers and singing. It was the UFD's fourth major rally in Sofia since handline Com-

munist leader Todor Zhivkov was ousted Nov. 10. Beron, reading the demands from the steps of Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, called for some parliamentary seats beld by Zhivkov associates to be contested in May, with a full general

election in November. Beron also called for a full report on the finances of the Department Six secret police. UDF President Zhelio Zhelev told reporters the opposition had no time to prepare for full general elections provisionally slated for

"We couldn't win full elections

in May, but in November we have a good chance," he said.

"How can we win elections in May when Department Six still exists and the mass media are still under dictatorship?" said Ljubomir Sobajiev, another UDF

Zhelev said the UDF would demand May elections for 100 to 120 parliamentary seats occupied by "those compromised under Zhivkov." He said the demands would be presented at roundtable talks with the government beginning Tuesday.

Petar Madenov, the former foreign minister who replaced Zhivkov as Communist Party chief and president, has promised democratic changes, including free elections and freedom of the

But the opposition has criticised him for the slow pace of also be discussed in parliament reform and for allowing former Monday.

Zhivkov associates to remain ir high-ranking party positions. "After Nov. 10 (the date Zhiv-

much plurality, democracy

under a one-party system.

How many public move-

In reality, Lithuania already

has at least two political parties

vying for official recognition.

pendent Communist Party of

Lithuania, is the majority party

in the republic. It has voted to

break with Moscow and pursue

its own course, prompting the

visit by Gorbachev and other

party leaders in an unsuccess-

ful attempt to mend the break.

The other, calling itself the

Communist Party of Lithuania

(platform CPSU), is made up

of party stalwarts still loyal to

Moscow who left the republic's

party. It continues to follow

the platform of the Soviet

In other republics, local

popular front groups have

fielded candidates for legisla-

tive posts in opposition to

Communists, and in Latvia on

Saturday, about 200 environ-

mental activists announced the

formation of a Green Party

with goals similar to those of

the Greens in Western

Communist Party.

Europe.

One, referred to as the Inde-

ments... I welcome it."

kov was ousted), our newly reformed leaders promised to tell us the real situation - but we're still waiting," said Mihail Mihailov, another speaker at the

Beron also read out excerpts from a declaration agreed Friday by nationalists, communists and opposition representatives, aimed at defusing ethnic tensions between Bulgarian nationalists and the country's estimated 1.5 million Turkish and Muslim minorities (see page 2).

The declaration puts a stamp of approval on last month's government decree guaranteeing Turks' rights to reassume their own names after years of forced assimilation under Shivkov. It will

E. Europeans hope for good ties with both Syria and Israel

By Alistair Lyon

DAMASCUS — East European countries want to stay on good terms with Syria and other Arab states despite moves to improve ties with Israel, diplomats say.

But the need to reform their own economies may take them less ready to offer credit or enter barter deals with Syria.

And the Soviet Union, while still considering Damascus its main Arab ally, has made clear it does not accept President Hafez Al Assad's aim of military "strategic parity" with

"When we resumed relations with Israel, it was not accepted by the Arab World with full happiness," Hungarian Ambassador Andor Egyed told Renters. "There was a 'gentleman's reaction' from Syria, which expressed regret but said Hungary was independent and could establish relations with anyone."

Egyed said Hungary had put relations with Syria on a basis of "mutual benefit" as economic conditions worsened at

"Now we have to concentrate our material possibilities on economic reconstruction in Hungary. For the moment we can't invest here or offer credit," he added.

But views on the central Middle East issue had not changed.

"Hungary's opposition is that Israel must accept a peaceful, international, political solution of the Palestinian question, including state," Egyed said. "We also say that the Arab side needs to approve Israel's right to exist."

DJEBEL, Bulgaria (R) — Ten-

sion between Bulgarian national-

ists and the country's ethnic Tur-

kish minority flickered beneath

the surface at the weekend de-

spite an agreement to safeguard

both minority and national in-

up Friday by Bulgarian national-

ists, Muslims, government and

opposition representatives

pledged to restore ethnic Turkish

names and religious rights while

making clear the minority would

An 11-point declaration drawn

In September Hungary be-came the first East European country to renew dilomatic relations with Israel, severed since the 1967 war. Czechoslovakia and Poland have both said they plan to restore relations.

Romania, the only East European country not to cut says it wants to keep good ties with the Arab World.

"After normalising its internal structure, Romania will take steps to establish new relations with Arab countries," said a Romanian diplomat, who doubted there would be major changes.

East German sources said a Foreign Ministry delegation would visit Damascus soon to explain changes in East Germany and their effect on relations with Syria and the Arab

Syria, with its own brand of Baath Party socialism, has long had close economic and military ties with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. In 1986 almost half Syria's exports went to the socialist bloc.

The Soviet Union, owed an estimated \$15 billion mainly for arms supplies, indicated last year that Syria's ability to pay would be a factor in future military cooperation.

Palestinian leaders based in Damascus say they are confident Soviet and East European support for the Palestinian cause will continue despite recent Israeli diplomatic gains.

"The socialist countries will build their own approaches to Israel to have what they call a balanced policy, but they will continue to support a comprehensive peace in the Middle

Bulgarian ethnic tension flickers

Ethnic Turks who clustered

around Western journalists in this

remote southeastern village said

the agreement seemed to have

quelled a wave of anti-Turkish

street protests that swept the

country at the beginning of the

month. But they were doubtful

the promises would be put put

"A lot of people are still afraid

to speak, especially in front of

Western journalists," said one

ethnic Turk in the village square.

into practice.

not be allowed autonomy.

East," Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, told Renters.

"The Soviet Union will contime to support its friends, not only out of principle, but also because it has its own interests in the Middle East... and treaties with Arab countries.

"I see absolutely no need for haste in restoring diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel," Hawatmeh

"Now our Palestinian policy depends on the intifada, a democratic and peaceful movement, we need political, spiritual and mass support, not military," he said. Hawatmeh said he had

-raised with Moscow the question of emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. "This worries the whole Palestinian people," he de-

"Any rise in Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union or other countries to Israel leads to more settlement on Palestimian land at our expense and adds to the human potential of

the Israeli military machine." George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said he was unhappy at the sight of East European countries resuming

ties with Israel.

"But there is a big difference between them and the U.S. administration, which after two years of the intifada has not said 'yes' to Palestinian self-determination," he said.

"The Soviet Union says a very plain 'yes' to self-determination and an independent Paiestinian state."

Another bystander pointed to a

raincoated man on the edge of

the crowd and whispered

"If everyone follows the 11

mented. "But it would be foolish

to be optimistic and we must wait

and see how it is implemented."

The ruling Communist Party's

Dec. 29 decision to restore Mus-

him rights tapped an undercurrent

of ethnic rivalry and mistrust dat-

ing back to 500 years.

it could lead to a quiet

another villager com-

"police."

commitments to human rights. The organisation's report said

alleged torture and abuses should be immediately tried by a crimin-Meanwhile, Badr's new replacement, Mohammad Abdul

Halim Mousa, was quoted in Sunday's newspapers as saying that. the Interior Ministry "is committed to sovereignty, the law andprotecting democracy." The Egyptian Organization for Human Rights said in a 21-page

security forces.

increase in the use of torture, not only to members of political trends and groups suspected of opposing the government, but to ordinary citizens with no political affiliation or interest," the report



Human rights abused under Badr in Egypt, report says

CAIRO (AP) — Torture of political prisoners was on the rise and human rights were abused during 1989 when sacked Interior Minister Zaki Badr was in power, a report by the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights claims.

The report demanded an independent inquiry into its claims of torture and asked President Hosni Mubarak to restate Egypt's

that those responsible for the

widespread. "The use of torture in Egypt has become widespread to the. point that it now appears to be a matter of policy of Egyptian

report issued last week that use of

torture in Egypt had become

"In 1989, there was a marked

It said methods of torture varied from "severe beating. slaps, punches, kicks, (hitting with) rifle butts, leather belts, hosepipes, bamboo sticks and electric batons. In some cases the whip was brought back into use to beat and torture detainees."

It said electric shocks were also used. It said at least one detainee. Makhlouf Abdullaal Ahmad died while in police custody on Jan. 6, 1989 after he was tor-

The top domestic security official who was sworn in Friday said he believed democratic dialogue was the best way to deal with issues, clearly steering away from his predecessor's renown ironfisted security operations.

Mubarak fired Badr after public row erupted when the minister reportedly insulted fellow cabinet members, opposition parties, journalists and others. The name-calling tirades were reported by two opposition newspapers earlier this week.

The daily opposition Al Wafd said Sunday that Badr's dismissal triggered wide-spread rejoicing in the Egyptian countryside where farmers fired their rifles in celebration. It said even officers at the Interior Ministry celebrated when they heard the news. with one officer sacrificing two sheep and distributing their meat to poor people in a typical way

Mubarak's diamissal of Badr has also been applauded in both state-owned and opposition newspapers.

Detainees to be freed

The new interior minister will soon free scores of Muslim fundamentalists rounded up by his hardline predecessor, security sources said Sunday.

Musa is now reviewing the cases of people still held under emergency regulations after being reprieved by Egyptian The sources said the new minis-

ter planned to release some sus-

pected criminals as well as Muslim fundamentalist dissidents labelled dogs and pigs by Badr According to emergency regulations, in force since 1981 when Muslim zeálots gunned down President Anwar Sadat, the Interior Ministry can hold suspects in detention centres without charge for a month. The ministry

orders. The exact number of those to be released is not known but the sources said they included some held under emergency regulations after initially being detained on suspicion of dealing in drugs and hard currency on the black

can also renew the detention

Lebanese mark 40th day of Muawad's dead

ZGHORTA; Lebanon (R) -The wife of murdered President Rene Muawad said Sunday all those who rejected the Taif peace pact shared responsibility in killing her husband.

Rene Muawad is the martyr of reconciliation. He who opposes this march and tries to obstruct its execution bears a big share of responsibility in the assassination,? said Nayla .Muawad at a memorial service marking the 40th day on her husband's death.

"It does not make any difference whether this responsibility is political, national or criminal, she said in apparent reference to defiant general Michel Aoun. Aoun, who holds out in the

Christian enclave with his 15,000 mainly Christian troops, rejected the pact reached in the Saudi city of Taif in October last year because it did not ensure the Swift pullout of Syria's 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

He refused to recognise Muawad's election or submit to the authority of his successor President Elias Hrawi.

Lebanese officials and foreign ambassadors, including Atab League envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi, attended the mass at the Saint John Church in Muawad's hometown in the northern village of Zgborta.

neighbouring Syria, was In with 16 people when a mass bomb ripped through his mertor-cade in west Beirut on Nov 22 seventeen days after

On his election day, he please to implement the Taif pact aimed at ending 14 years of civil war, reforming the country's sectarian based political system by giving Muslims more power.

The bereaved wife, class and black, vowed to follow the pelitical path of her husband even if it meant martyrdom.

"Grief will not wane our determination but will only increase our firm will and resolution. Either life in a united Lebanon without any sectarian or geographical divisions or no Lebanon at all," Muawad's wife said.

"Rene Muawad was a man of dialogue. He was targeted with such ferocity because he was a symbol of reconciliation and a hope for a better future," she

"It is about time to unite in the face of the conspiracy to partition Lebanon. Disintegration and partition are schemes to assassinate Lebanon. Then there won't be any hope for resurrection.

"Enough divisions...enough chaos...enough displacement...enough suffering and poverty. Let's build together what the war Muawad, who was backed by has destroyed," she said.

Soviet swim to Iran, hundreds on border

NICOSIA (AP) — A number of Soviet Muslims braved sub-zero temperatures to swim across the Araks River into Iran using inflated tire tubes, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia. did not say how many Soviet Muslims entered Iran during the crossing Saturday. But it reported earlier that 12 such crossings have occurred since Shiite Muslims in Soviet Azerbaijan started protests Dec. 31. Shiites in the soviet province

are demanding closer links with their ethnic co-religionists in northwest Iran amid the wave of 'reform that has been sweeping Eastern Europe. Some militants want total union.

IRNA said that about 1,000 Soviet Muslims congregated on the Soviet bank of the Araks Saturday, shouting greetings and religious slogans to a similar number or Iranian Azerbaijanis gathered on the other side.

Such gatherings are reported frequently in the Iranian media. Tehran Television, also monitored in Nicosia, earlier showed a gathering of about 1,000 Soviet Muslims across the river Friday. The Soviet Azerbaijanis share

a common culture, language and religion with their Iraman cousins, who constitute about one-third of Iran's 55 million population. The border incidents have

occurred against a backdrop of mounting violence by militant Soviet Azerbaijanis in conflict with Soviet Armenians over who should govern the mustly Armenian enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan. The Soviets have long been

fearful of Muslim unrest along its southern border with Iran. But President Hashemi Rafsaniani's government in Tehran, which has good links with Moscow, apparently does not want to stir up Islamic fervor in the region.

Egypt-Syria links mark move towards Arab unity, but hazards remain

By Martin Marris The Associated Press

DAMASCUS — The resumption of relations by Syria and Egypt takes the Arabs a step closer to the unity that has eluded them for decades and reflects the sea-change in their feaders' perceptions that has taken place in recent years.

The rapprochement that ended a 12-year rift between two giants of the Arab World comes amid other signs of growing cohesion among the Arab It also underlines the more

pragmatic approach Arab leaders are now taking, turning away from the mirage of instant unification that so seduced them for many years. Their view of the world and

their place in it has shifted over the years, from the concept of the Arab Nation to the harsh realities of coexistence with other power blocs and that Israel is there to stay. The Arab League's push for

an international Middle East peace conference, under United Nations auspices, underlines the understanding that Israel is a reality and cannot be crushed. The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) recog-

Syria and Jordan made up in

Last year, Syria restored relations, broken off in 1986, with Могоссо. Egypt came in from the cold in 1987 after a decade of ostra-

cisation over its 1979 treaty with Israel. South Yemen and North Yemen are striving towards unity after a 20-year In crisis-torn Lebanon. which Arab rivals have long

brokered a peace treaty in October aimed at ending the 14-year-old civil war.

nition of Israel's right to exist' exemplifies that. The Syria-Egypt reconciliation is the latest step towards ending decades of division in the Arab World.

1985 after years of dispute.

used as a proxy battleground, the 22-member Arab League

The treaty has stalled because of Christian leader Michel Aoun's rejection of it. But the Arab League had finally taken the bull by the horns after years of impotently watching as Lebanon tore itself

Last year, two regional alliances — the four-nation Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and the five-state Arab Mangreb Union — were formed and grouped the nine countries in economic and defense blocs founded on the common interests of their members rather than outright political unity.

They followed the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council, formed in 1981. But analysts said these

groups still have a long way to go before they can become effective as the Arab World faces increasing economic integration in Europe, their biggest trading bloc, and the uncertainties posed by the partial crumbling of East-West power

"It's wonderful that the leaders meet," said Professor Kamel Abu Jaber, president of Jordan's World Affairs Council. "But does that mean this is

real unity? I don't think so." Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, citing superpower detente, the European Community's (EC) plan for economic unity in 1992 and reforms in Eastern Europe, noted earlier this month: "In this region, we are concerned primarily with increasing our ability to deal with the European entity that is moving fast towards unity ... this new giant that will not confine itself to the EC countries, but will extend to East European countries sooner or

He stressed in an interview with Cairo's Al Ahram newspaper that greater Arab cohesion "does not mean entering into mergers or anything similar.

"If we set ourselves such an illusory aim at this stage, we will not accomplish anything at all and thus we will lose the possible in pursuing the im-

Abu Jaber noted: "Looking at it in the historical perspective, the regionalisation of the Arab World, the attempt to

make smaller unity rather than one great Arab unity, is a reflection of a certain maturity among ... Arab leaders." The world's 210 million Arabs live in 21 countries

across a swath of territory that stretches from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean. They share a common language, Arabic, and culture, a history of conquest and a

majority religion, Islam. Despite a common enemy. Israel, and their quest for greater unity, the modern history of the Arabs has often been one of discord based in part on traditional tribal rivalries.

Syria led the Arab boycott of Egypt after President Anwar Sadat visited occupied Jerusalem in 1977. It broke off relations with Cairo that year and was followed by 16 other Arab countries when Cairo signed the only peace treaty between an Arab country and Israel two years later. President Hafez Al Assad

still adamantly opposes the treaty while Hosni Mubarak holds firmly to the agreement.

It is a sign of the changing times that this did not prevent them from resuming diplomatic relations last month.

Western diplomats in Damascus said the move was prompted largely by Assad's desire to escape from increasing isolation in the region following the Arab summit decision to readmit Egypt to the Arab League, the oldest regional grouping founded in March 1945.

That left only maverick Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi holding out against Cairo, although he too has been moving slowly towards resuming diplomatic relations.

The two countries have reopened their border, resumed air links and held talks on closer ties in agriculture, oil, transport and other fields. Qadhafi, the last representa-

tive in the Arab World of the union fever that swept the region from the 1950s through the 1970s, said with characteristic flourish last week in Tripoli: "The Arabs must unite ... or else the Arabs will be scattered throughout the world like Gypsies.

But the history of mergers between Arab countries has been a warning to the current generation of leaders, who remember the fiasco of Egypt's three-year merger with Syria that broke down in acrimony in 1961 with Damascus accusing Cairo of betrayal and wrecking its economy.

The GCC, made up of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain. Qatar and Oman, was set up in 1981 after the Iran-Iraq war broke out.

It was designed as a defence and economic grouping to increase trade between its members, work towards standardised military forces and foster regional economic projects, such as a common gas and electricity networks. But, Abu Jaber noted, "no-

thing has come out of it except meetings of the leaders, consultations rather than coordination." The Arab Maghreb Union.

formed in February 1989,

groups Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania It aims to set up an economic common market on the Euro-

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pean model. King Hassan II of Morocco said the grouping "brings doser the realisation of integral Arab unity." But so far there have been few signs of concrete economic benefits.

The main payoff has been diplomatic, bringing about a rapprochement between comtries whose ties were strained or non-existent.

Algeria and Morocco were at odds over the Algerianbacked Polisario guerrillas in the Western Sahara, and Libya and Tunisia broke of relations in the mid-1980s amid Tunisian accusations of Libyan-inspired sabotage.

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen set up the Arab Cooperation Council in February 1989. They allow free travel between their countries without passports and have plans to ease the migration of workers from one country to another.

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

15:30 Roran 15:40 Programme review

15:45 Children programmes
18:00 News summary in Arabic

18:05 World News

PROGRAMME ONE

19:15

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Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RI) information department at the Oncen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS

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Her Majorty Course ligge Sunday presents certificates to policewomen who completed a special training course (Petra)

Queen graduates 41 policewomen

AMMAN (Petra) - A batch of serving their country and people. 41 policewomen graduated Sun- Academy Commander Aida day from the Policewomen Academy after completing a 22week training course and doing practical as well as theoretical work in various types of police.

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Her Majesty Queen Noor, who security for the country side by attended the eraduation caremony, congratulated the graduates and wished them success in

Mater delivered a speech outlining the nature of training given to the graduates and noting that the academy had been turning out batches of women who have been ensulowed in the task of courring

side with policemen

presented a performance of their skill in judo, karate and other mertial arts. According to a police official,

the graduates received training in,

legal matters, police work, milit-

ary training and other types of

Public Security Department Director-General Fadel Ali The graduates paraded before Fuheid also attended the cere-

Badran reiterates intention not to interfere with press

AMMAN (J.T.) -- Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday reiterated his government's intention not to interfere with the press and to leave it to the newspaper editors and journalists to take responsibility. "What the government is concerned about is to see all writers and journalists shouldering national responsibility and offering true service to their country." Badran said at a meeting with the president and members of the board of the,

Jordan Press Association (JPA). "We have to learn from past lessons and mistakes in our endeavour to follow the course of democracy," the prime minister

JPA President Hashem Khreisat discussed with the prime minister the general conditions of journalists and the media and the prospects for the coming stage. quite happy with the govern-

decision to cancel martial law and to reverse earlier resolutions concerning the press. He said journalists were looking forward to more measures to help promote their work and to give them "psychological and employment security so that they can increase production, improve their performance and bolster their sense of national belonging."

Following the lengthy meeting, Khreisat presented the prime minister with a memorandum including a ser of proposals from the JPA to help promote media work in the Kingdom.

On Jan. 7 Information Minister Ibrahim Izzeddin said in a statement to the Jordan Times that the government plans to reexamine the status of the Jordanian press and reconsider the question of newspaper ownership making He said that the journalists were chief editors the sole responsible persons for running the news-

King, premier hail ABC decision to open new bank

Banking Corporation (ABC), which has decided to open a bank Bank. in Jordan Sunday, received support for the project from His Majesty King Hussein and Prime

Minister Mudar Badran. here to contribute towards bol- Corporation. stering the national Jordanian economy," Badran told ABC President Abdullah Saoudi.

tical translation of investing Arab infrastructure with sufficient money in Arab land, Badran told financial expertise. Saoudi at the meeting which was

AMMAN (I.T.) — The Arab attended by Zuhair Khouri, Saoudi and Khouri. director-general of the Housing

The two sides reviewed the general economic and financial situation in the Arab World and "The Jordanian government the ABC's endeavour in Jordan deeply appreciates the ABC in cooperation with the Housing move and welcomes the bank Bank and the Jordan Securities

Saoudi said that ABC considers Jordan as a country with great investment potential which has a The ABC decision is a prac- good name and has the necessary

King Hussein also received page 6).

The Bahrain-based ABC has subsidiaries in Monaco, West Germany, Spain and Hong Kong and has recently announced plans to target Arab rather than international markets for growth in the 1990s.

Saoudi said in a suitement quoted by Reuter last no oth that ABC planned to put the expertise it had gained in the 1980s to work in Arab markets.

He said that the ABC bank in Amman would be an independent bank operating on a purely commercial basis (See story on

'1990 fiscal budget realistic'

AMMAN (Petra) - The chair- is stabilising." man of the financial committee of the Lower House of Parliament, Abdullah Nsour, Sunday described the 1990 fiscal budget as Nsour, who once served as minis- nomists in Jordan to air their presented to Parliament last week ter of planning. He criticised the views about the fiscal budget beas realistic and reflects responsi- economic chaos that prevailed in fore voting on it. bility since it highlights the country's difficulties and potential.

Speaking to reporters following a committee session, Nsour said that the Jordanian economy "needs several years to regain its health but the downward trend has now stopped and everything

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day

regional symposium on ways to

encourage people to donate

blood and means of preserving

blood for emergency use and

operations, which opened here

Sunday, heard calls for more

effort to collect blood and for

developing nations to attain self-

increased in Jordan but the

Ministry of Health has a cam-

paign to increase the number.

Minister of Health Mohammad

Addoub Al Zaben said in an

address at the opening session.

Number of blood donors has

"The economic graphic line is expected to point upwards but this process will be slow," said the country in the previous period when the "real deficit" and "real

volume" of revenues were not

He also expressed optimism for better economic performance, but said that the 1990 fiscal budget failed to address the coun-government."

reflected in the budget.

Symposium on blood urges

nations to be self-sufficient

mony held in Amman.

tion programmes.

He said that the donors were

The minister paid tribute to the

World Health Organisation

(WHO), which, he said, main-

tains its efforts to help the de-

veloping world become self-suffi-

cient of blood supplies through

encouraging national blood dona-

WHO representative Abdul

Majid Abdul Hadi stressed the

need for all countries to attain

self-sufficiency of blood supplies.

"There is need to double efforts

honoured by Her Majesty

Queen Noor at an annual cere-

try's chronic unemployment

Nsour said that the committee had decided to call leading eco-

Voting on the budget, he said, "will have a similar procedure like the vote of confidence in the new government, so therefore a vote of confidence in the budget will mean a vote of confidence in the government and a failure means a vote of no confidence in the

for encouraging people to donate

blood and to transform the casual

donors into regular donors,"

Abdul Hadi said. He said that the

campaign to collect blood should

be carried out at a national level.

the Eastern Mediterranean region

are attending the symposium

along with experts from WHO.

the United States and the United

tecting blood supplies, collecting

blood from donors and adminis-

trative and technical matters re-

lated to the operation.

They will discuss ways of pro-

Delegates from 11 countries in

the Queen and the audience and mony. ment's policies especially with its papers. Arminius Quintet to perform in Jordan

By Nelly Lama Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arminius Wind Quintet, five Germanyouths who received their musical education at the Music Academy of Detmold, Germany, have formed a wind ensemble that should be performing at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman Tuesday Jan. 16 at-8:00 p.m. The concert will be held under the patronage of Her Majesty Quen Noor Al Hussein. It was through the auspices of the Goethe lastitute and Lufthansa that the National Music Conservatory, Nour Al Hussein Foundation, was able to receive the performers. The group's musical formation does not only include wind instru-

but goes on with performance in Germany as well as abroad. There is a continuous artistic performance, its aim is to continue the already prevalent Detmoid tradition of wind-instru-

ment classes at the academy

ment ensembles. " The group is very young, but has performed in the Federal-Republic of Germany, France and Switzerland and has won international competitions.

AMMAN (J.T.) — West German

and Arab media specialists and

representatives will Monday open

Flautist Katharin Ehlenbroker, born in 1963 in Merburg, started her first fittle studies at age 10. in 1982, she studied with Professor Michael Achilles in the Music Academy of Detroold and graduated in 1988. Other than chamber music and soloist performance she practiced with singer Hella Heizmann and joined the North German Philharmonic

Orchestra and the Bochumer Symphonic Orchestra. Katharine Kammerloher plays the oboe. Born in 1963, she received her first musical education at age seven. In 1984, she studied in the Demold Manie Academy under the supervision of Professor Gernot Schmalfuss who previously performed in Amman with Consortium Classicum. She studied sole and chamber music with Ingo Goritzki, Gerd Starke and Jost Michaels.

Among her orchestra performances, we can count concerts with the Munich Chamber Soloists, the Bamberg and the European Symphony

Haraid Heim, who plays the bont, was born in 1969 in Beckum and started at age

mit a study on ways of conveying

news material from the Arab

World to European countries,

nine. He won several competitions with "Youth Makes Music." Between 1986 and 1988, be worked as a solo horn player in Landesjugendorcherster NRW and has since been studying with Professor Erich Penzel at the Cologne

Music Academy.

Thomas Backhaus, who play the clarinet, was born in 1963 in Frankfurt and started his clarinet studies at 11 with Walter Pauly, soloist of the Broadcasting Service Orchestra in Frankfurt. Between 1978 and 1983, he joined the Youth Orchestra NRW and in 1979 won the prize of "Youth Makes Music." He studied with Professor H.D. Klaus in the Music Academy of Detmold. He is a member of the Cologne Ensemble that works in collaboration with composer Maurizio Kagel. He also performs with the State Theatre in Kassel.

Peter Brechtel, on the bassoon, was born in 1967 in Ulm and started bassoon lessons at age 11. He won several prizes in the competition of "Youth Makes Music." Between 1984 and 1986, he studied under the supervision of H.J. Leetz in Wuppertal. Since then he stu-

died with Professor Helman

Jung in the Music Academy of Detmold and with him joined the Detmold Wind Sextet. He participated in the Chamber Music Recording for radio and television as well as in the Philharmonic Orchestra of Bielefeld and performed at the Oldenburg States Theatre.

The repertoire

The repertoire they will be performing includes works by McGart, Danzi Rossini and Ligeti.

In Mozart's time, the eightcenth century, wind instruments were used by symphony orchestras only for doubling, reinforcing and filling in the harmonies. Chamber music used the clavier and violin for indoor performances and string quartets for outdoors. It was only in the period between 1774 and 1781 in Salzburg that Mozart began to compose chamber music for wind instruments such as the light and charming flute quartet in D major (K. 285) and the more serious oboe quartet (K. 370).

The Arminius Quintet will be performing 'Divertimento" which is bound to convey the

pleasant feeling of works that Mozart composed in the 1770s as entertainment pieces for garden parties, home concerts and occasions such as weddings and birthdays of his friends and patrons, light pieces that be either called "serenades" or "Divertimento."

Next they will be playing the "Wind Quintet in D major" of Danzi and the "Wind Quartet in F major" of Gioacchino Rossini, the principal Italian composer of the early 19th century who was endowed with a pronounced gift for melody and had a flair for stage effect, which made him very successful. Most of his work was for vocal music, he wrote two operas, two oratorios, a dozen cantatas and only few instrumental works.

The Quintet will conclude their performance with "Six Bagatelles."

(Bagatelle meaning a short

musical piece) by contempor-

cost of pilgrimage transportation ary composer Ligeti. It is interesting to note that Ligeti was the winner of the "Goethe prize" in the Goethe Institute AMMAN (J.T.) - The Ministry in Munich last year for his achievements in the field of Sunday asked public transport music. companies in Jordan to reduce their charges for transporting pilgrims to and from Saudi Arabia during the pilgrimage season, and

> other measures to ensure this operation at lower cost The warning came from Minis-

warned the ministry will resort to

Ministry presses drive to reduce

of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs in the process of pilgrimage. Unless the major transportation companies which have been in the habit of transporting the pilgrims reduce their fares, the ministry will opt for smaller vehi-

grims, the minister told the meeting, which was called to review ter of Awqaf Ali Al Faqir at a arrangements for the transportameeting held at his office and tion and accommodation of pilattended by all concerned parties grims during the 1990 season ex- during the pilgumage season.

and government offices involved. pected in June this year.

The ministry is anxious to reduce the cost for Muslims wishing to perform the annual rites in Mecca and Meaning and will resort to any measure to help them do that, Fagir said. The ministry is correctly makcles from any source, like ninepassenger cars, to transport pil-

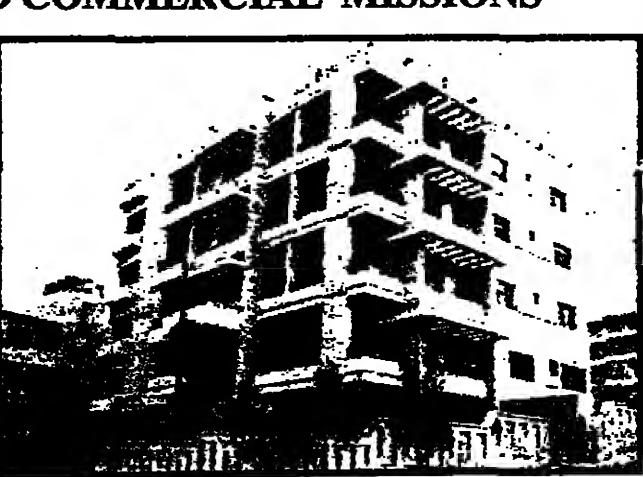
Kingdom.

ment of Saudi Arabia to facilitate the entry of pilgrims from Jordan at the border post and to provide them with decest accommodatic

BUILDING FOR RENT SUITABLE FOR EMBASSIES AND COMMERCIAL MISSIONS

Consists of seven flats nearly of 1760 square metres. The first flat is of 440 square metres and the area of each other flat is 220 square metres. The building has a beautiful garden, garage, and inter-

Location: Um Uthaina- behind San Rock Hotel -Ismail Al Nashash building.



Call tel: 629784 Amman

a three-day meeting here to discuss ways of boosting Arab-Ger-He noted that other working man information and media papers to be presented by both cooperation designed to promote sides would deal with other vaunderstanding between Europe rious issues of concern to Arab and the Arab World. and European countries. The round-table conference is Part of the study to be preexpected to be attended by 10 sented by the ANAF, Ayar said, members of the Arab News. deals with "the recent anti-Arab Agencies Federation (ANAF) campaign that followed the up-beaval in Eastern Europe and If he and delegates representing 10 ng abs major newspapers, magazines ways to counter such hostile went and radio stations in the Federal media attacks." ere see Republic of Germany. Minister of Information Ibra-ANAF Secretary General mocol ' Farid Ayar said the participants him Izzeddin is expected to open Alex would try to lay down the basis member for joint action in news exchange Arab delegates at the meeting and based on mutual understanding represent Egypt, Morocco, Libya, Algeria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emiof relation and objectivity. One of the West German participants from Mains University will subject a working paper dealrates, Syria and Jordan. The delegates, who also include directors of news agencies, will tour several with problems involved in places of interest in Jordan and world information exchange opci in it erations, and the ANAF will subwill meet with Jordanian officials.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Euro-Arab information

exchange talks open

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS: A royal decree was issued Sunday endorsing the appointment of Dr. Awad Khicifat and Dr. Ali Mahafza as presidents of Mu'ta and the Yarmouk universities respectively, as of Dec. 18, 1989 (Perm).

AOID TO MEET WEDNESDAY: The board of directors of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) will hold an extraordinary session in Baghdad Wednesday to discuss matters related to pan-Arab specifications and standards in industry. Jordan's delegation to meetings will be headed by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Fariz and will include the ministry's industry department director, Mohammad Bani Hani. Fariz will leave Amman Tuesday to take part in the meetings and to participate also in the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministerial committee.

MINISTRY BANS 48 FOREIGN FIRMS: The Ministry of Finance Sunday banned dealings with 48 foreign companies for violating regulations of the Arab Office for Boycotting Israel. The ministry lifted the ban on 16 foreign companies after they chose to abide by the office's regulations. The ministry gave no other details

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITION

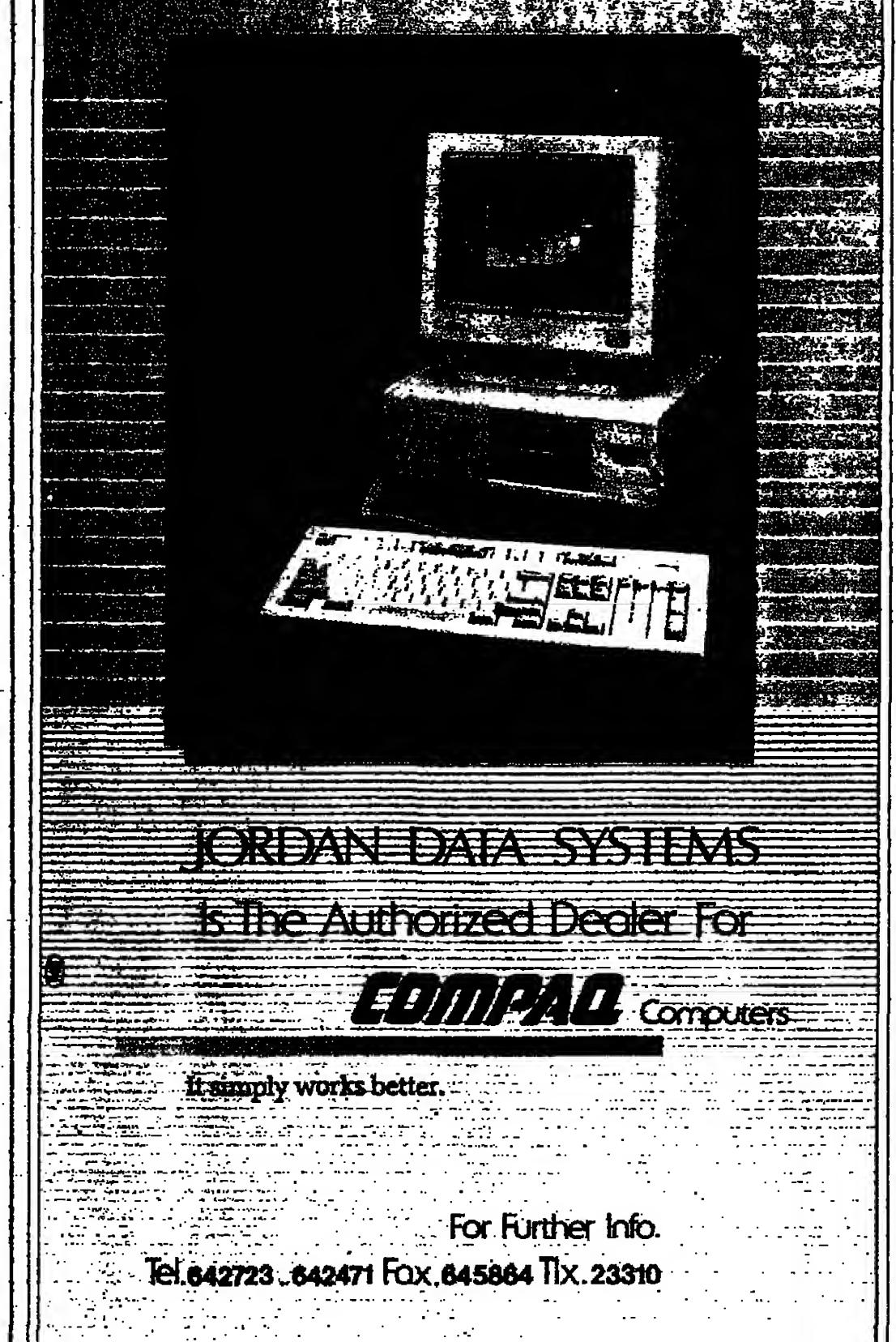
An exhibition entitled "They chose 30 poets" at the French Cuiturai Centre.

FILMS

A French film entitled "Rive Divolte, Rive Ganche" at the French Cultural Centre - 8:06 p.m.

* A programme of documentaries at the Soviet Cultural Centre

— 6:00 p.m.





Jordan Times

جورين تابعز يومية عربية سياسية مستلكة تصدر بالإنجليزية عن للؤسسة الصحفية الأربنية

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Is Peres serious this time?

WAS Israel's Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres up to his old tricks when he recently urged the Palestinians to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's five-point plan in return for his solemn pledge to pull out of Shamir's government with a view to precipitating national elections? Peres made the offer in an address to the press club in Tel Aviv last Thursday during which he also made his strongest criticism yet of the pace of his country's diplomatic process regarding the projected Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. This time around, his threatening words to pull out of Shamir's government were the clearest yet when he said that the "moment of truth" has come and that if his Likud partners in government did not move the peace process forward, Labour would simply call it quits. As a matter of fact Peres had other beautiful things to say about peace in the Middle East when he declared that he and his party would not object to negotiate with representatives of the Palestinian people even if they were PLO faithfuls provided that they were elected in accordance with the sacrosanct "Shamir-Rabin formula."

These are indeed very encouraging words except that the Arab side has got used to hearing them from Peres for so long and so often that they no longer know when to believe him and when not. There is nothing that the Arab side would welcome more than to have Peres and his Labour party precipitate a crisis in the government over the slow pace of the peace process and force upon his country a new election on the basis of a reformed election law in Israel. It is common knowledge that as long as Shamir and his Likud partners stay on the top of things in Israel, there is no hope whatsoever for peace between Israel and the Arabs. What Peres is waiting for to bring about the fall of the government in his country as presently constituted only God knows. If the Labour chiefs are sincere about their avowed disappointment with the position of Shamir and the Likud party, the best way to prove it is go through their repeated threats to call for new elections as soon as possible. Then and only then would there be an opportunity for Israel, to negotiate peace with the PLO, the lawful representative of the Palestinian people.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Sunday dwelt on statements given by Faroug Al Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's foreign affairs department and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem on Saturday. Both officials, the paper said, stressed the special relationship between the Palestinian and Jordanian people and their common struggle to regain Arab rights in Palestine. The intifada will continue and the Arab Nation in general and Jordan in particular will continue to lend support for the Palestinian people's struggle for freedom, the paper noted. It quoted Kaddoumi as reiterating that the Palestinians will continue to fight for their homeland in Palestine and not for a substitute homeland in Jordan, thus blasting Ariel Sharon's views and Zionist plans, the paper added. Kaddoumi's stress on the special relationship between the PLO and Jordan was echoed by Qasem who emphasised that the talks were only one more stage in the ongoing process of coordination between the two sides to serve the Palestinian cause, the paper said. The paper stressed that the Jordanian-Palestinian joint action can and will thwart all Israeli moves and manoenvres.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Sunday voices full support for the government's decision to allow further quantities of West Bank agricultural produce to enter Jordan to to meet the shortages in the local markets. Salah Abdul Samad says that the government, in the face of the continued shortage and in response to demands by the representatives of the people, has resorted to this measure which is welcomed by the public. The government's move is a welcome development since the marketing of West Bank products in Jordan and other parts of the Arab World is bound to lend further support for the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the face of Israel's practices, and will of course help the Jordanian people purchase their needs at reasonable prices, says the writer. Abdul Samad criticises those who oppose the move on the ground that Israel might be infiltrating its own products into Jordan, because, he says, everything is done to prevent that from happening. The writer says that there is no damage to the interest of the Jordanian farmers who are only exploited by middlemen. He says that the government's decision is very bold and serves the national cause.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily on Sunday tackled the water crisis in the Arab World, with special attention given to Turkey's decision to cut off the water of the Euphrates river. The paper pointed out the danger to Arab interests resulting from such action and also from a recent decision by Ethiopia to build a dam on the Nile and cut off or reduce the amounts of water reaching Egypt. Cutting of water supplies especially from Egypt, the paper noted, will render the country in great danger, since Egypt depends totally on the Nile for agriculture. The paper drew attention that Ethiopia was building a dam with assistance from Israel which is trying to find means for exercising pressure on Egypt and the Arab World to succumb to Zionist will. The paper expressed hope that the coming ministerial meeting planned by the Arab Cooperation Council members in Baghdad will discuss the negative aspects of the Turkish and Ethiopian decisions on the economies of livag and Egypt, both of which are ACC member countries.

Weekly Political Pulse

New formula for justice needed

NO ONE in his right mind would quarrel with the proposition that Jordan's austerity budget for 1990 has been specifically streamlined to meet the sacrosanct guidelines and terms of the International Monetary Fund. Still Jordanians, especially those who are most severely affected by the creeping line of poverty. are nevertheless concerned about the apparent lack of attentionbeing made to the high inflationary rate in Jordan at a time when there is no parrallel increase in wages and salaries. The demonstrations that took place in southern Jordan last April are still a grim reminder that bread and butter issues are upper most on the minds of the poor. And while there has been no more visible demonstrations in any part of the country of late, one can be sure that there are many silent ones going on all over the kingdom as far as salaried and low income groups are concerned.

That the unbearable high inflationary trends in the country are the talk of the town is a foregone conclusion. The irony remains that the people who are offering economic and fiscal solutions to the economic hardships of the country as prescribed by the IMF are the least affected by the rising cost of living. Sitting up on their ivory towers, such untouched advisers can of course afford to offer academic or abstract panaceas detached from the realities of the country. In the final analysis it looks like the growing segment of the poor who have to foot the bill of past errors of judgment and bear the outrageous hardships that ensued from them. In other words. Jordanians who are the least responsible for the mistakes of the past are asked now to bear the brunt of their

The fact that the 1990 budget envisages the allocation of 60 million dinars to subsidise basic food commodities will of course lessen the pains and agonies of many Jordanians but would not address the heart of the matter properly and fairly. The obvious falacy of subsidising basic food comodities lies in the fact that the benefits thereof go to the pockets of the rich as well. The wealthy Jordanians who happen to be among the prime suspects for contributing to the economic and fiscal malaises of the country stand also to profit from the aid package deal contained in the policy of food subsidy. The clear unfairness of this form of helping the needy lies then in its extension to reach the uncedy. What is required instead of subsidy to basic foods and services is another formula which would address the economic difficulties of poor Jordanians without spreading the benefits to those who are the least deserving.

It is not past the ingenuity of Jordanian experts in finance and economics to improvise a system or mechanism to alleviate the sufferings of the deprived alone. One such scheme could be found in a formula that envisages the elimination of subsidies across the board and substituting them with a general scheme of increasing wages and salaries commencing with the poorest and ending with the middle income groups. Under the umbrella of such a formula, the poorest would earn the highest percentage of wage increases and the middle income groups the least. The rich would not, of course, reap any benefit from this programme.

Concurrently with the application of such a programme of action the tax structure of the country would have to be drastically

amended in due course in order to all but remove any formed income tax on the poorest among Jordanians. To offset the loss of revenues to the state that would necessarily ensue from this targ haven to the poorest, the upper income groups would have to be taxed that much more to replenish the coffers of the government to the time of the amounts lost. The middle income groups would retain their present status in the income tax structure of the country. Over and above this programme of rescue to the poor and poorest, sales tax can be introduced on all non-essentials. course it is a thorny issue to determine what constitutes essential and what does not. Yet it is not beyond the ability of Jordanian experts to come with a list of essentials which would be declared as exempt from sales tax. And through such an indirect form of taxation, the people who can afford the non-essential goods and services most would end up picking the tab for them.

And as has been suggested repeatedly by many parliamenta rians during the debates on confidence for the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the government can still reduce its expenditures across the board and become more capable of addressing the hardships of the low income groups. There is still much waste that can be easily identified and stopped. True extravaganza is no longer the hallmark of governmental expenditures, yet some aspects of it still goes on. The more savings can be had, the more able would the government be to cope with the extra costs of raising the salaries and wages of those who are in dire need for them.

Bidding for Soviet unity, Gorbachev prepares secession rights

By Robert Evans

MOSCOW — Bidding to hold the Soviet Union together, Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has offered the country's restless fringe republics the prospect that Moscow might create a formal framework for them to break

The apparent paradox, formulated by Gorbachev in Lithuania on Thursday, is a logical extension of his declared drive to turn the monolith state into a genuine federation of free partners, Soviet and foreign analysts have "It is a gamble, but if he plays

his cards right and if the nationalists recognise the realities of the world today, it might just come said long-time Moscowbased Sovietologist Dev Murarka. "What is aimed at is a federation with new relations between

mon democratic structure," said Albert Grigoryants, a legal expert for the Soviet parliament. "What he seems to be doing is

the centre and republics enjoying

self-determination within a com-

trying to make it more comfort-

state set-up the envisages by also making it theoretically easier to get out," said a senior Western

For two years since national problems began to emerge as one of the main obstacles to his perestroika reform programme, Gorbachev has been speaking of a genuine federation to replace rule from the Kremlin.

But in Lithuania last week, he and a senior aide revealed a draft law was in preparation setting out the mechanics under which any of the country's 15 republics could withdraw in an orderly fashion. Under Soviet constitutions

since the official federal state was proclaimed in 1924, every repubhic formally had the right to "freely secede." But even Kremlin officials now agree this existed only on paper. Nationalists calling for a break-

away or even a limited extension of republican rights were fiercely persecuted under previous Soviet leaders. Official propaganda spoke of the "unbreakable unity of the entire Soviet people. Speaking to workers in the Lithnanian capital of Vikius, as: across the city tens of thsousnads of people rallied in support of able to stay in the new Soviet total independence, Gorbachev

said he accepted every republic's with ordinary people, officials right to pull out if its people and intellectuals in the once-inderight to pull out if its people

pendent Baltic republic now But during hours of discussion swept by a wave of national senti-

> THE SOVIET REPUBLICS 2 Estonía 3 Letvia 6 Ukraine 7 Moldavia 4.2 8 Georgia 9 Armenia nație dregă Of 11 Turkmenisten 12 Uzbekleten 13 Tedzīķķistan 14 Kirgizia

ment, he argued fiercely that this would be a mistake. "What he is doing is pleading

for time - for his reforms both of the state and the Communist Party to change the shape of the country and make staying in a much more attractive proposition than the trauma of withdrawal," said Murarka. Over the past few months, as

pressure towards independence has built up in Lithuania and its Baltic neighbours Latvia and Estonia, Gorbachev and even reformist aides have argued the economic cost of withdrawal would be high. Fifty years since their absorp-

tion into the Soviet Union after Josef Stalin's pact with Adolf Hitler in 1939, all three have been integrated into the country's humbering structure of industry and communications — as well as defeace.

Even radical movements in Moscow and other parts of the country have urged the Balts, with their experience of two decades of relatively democratic statehood between the two world wars, to stay in and boost the process of change.

argument in Vilnius on Thursday, added.

a pull-out by Lithuania — which he clearly recognises would almost certainly be followed by Latvia and Estonia - would seriously cripple perestroika, he

Some Soviet officials sympathetic to the Balts, who have already effectively set up multiparty systems with elections likely to put non-Communist governments in power in the coming months, doubt if they could easily survive alone.

Some Western diplomats say the example of Finland after World War II suggests the opposite. But the diplomats agree that no Western governments are encouraging Baltic independence, for both economic and political

One senior Western envoy with many years of experience in Soviet affairs said events of the few weeks showed that not only Gorbachev but even his conservative critics had ruled out force to keep the Balts in,

"But it is obvious he is going to fight with all the political means at his disposal to convince them that in the long run it is to their advaitinge to remain to help build Gorbachev himself echoed this a new structure here," the envoy

After the euphoria: bills to pay and jobs to fill

By Mark J. Porubcansky The Associated Press

IASI, Romania — Philosophy professor Dorn Tigan sat in a chair once occupied by a niece of ousted dictator Nicolae Ceansescu and pondered over an endless chain of cigarettes and interrup-

tions how to run a revolution. The revolt that led to Ceausescu's execution on Christmas day transpired quietly in this city of 300,000 people on the Soviet border. Unlike in the capital, Bucharest, there are no bullet holes in buildings, no memorials

to the victims of gunfire from Ceausescu's personal guards. And as the euphoria of victory fades, inexperienced local leaders face an array of administrative problems as they try to turn an uprising against the leadership

into a revolution in every aspect of society. "For the time being, this is a nightmare," said Tigau, 43, president of the local 24-member National Salvation Front that has taken over Communist Party

headquarters in Iasi. Consider: — The revolution has no money, but bills still must be

— The new leaders aren't provided with security guards, though bands of Ceausescu's hated secret police may still be at

— There are more than 200 Ceausescu loyalists to be replaced in top government jobs in the

Pacing the long, panelled office that had been occupied by Ceausescu niece Maria Ghitulica. Tigau consulted with subordinates on naming a new official to take responsibility for cultural affairs. He also expounded on the need to put land back in the hands of Romanian peasants.

"There is a leadership in Bucharest that isn't giving us instructions, but giving us a general line," said Tigau, who never actively opposed the Ceausescu leadership, but says he tried to show students the difference between reality and what the dicta-

tor preached. Across the border in the Soviet Republic of Moldavia, Deputy Premier Mikhail S. Platon said in an interview that contacts with the new local leaders of Iasi showed them to be enthusiastic.

"They are young people," he said. "They need experience." One of the problems in Iasi is that the new government is

None of the hundreds of volunteers racing around the square, three-storey party headquaters is getting paid, not does the local National Salvation Front have any source of money. While willing to help foreign

visitors make long-distance telephone calls, Tigan's team insisted that the calls be paid for directly to the telephone exchange in local currency.

So while an operator travelled from the telephone office to collect the money and put through the call, the visitors' dollars were taken to the local bank.

There, as under the repressive Ceausescu government, even the serial numbers of the bills were registered before the bank handed over the official exchange.

Yet, lodging in the main tourist hotel was free. "You must not pay," said a desk clerk who identified herself only as Irina. Asked why the lodging fee, normally 286 lei a night, was being waived, she said only, "that's just the new

Romania's new leaders have decided to stop exporting meat and other staples, and food supplies have improved in Iasi and other parts of the country.

Georgetta Agape, a young sales clerk at a meat counter in an lasi food store, said employees no longer had to ask to see peoples' identification before selling them meat, which was strictly rationed under Ceausescu.

In the morning, she said that, "for the first time in many years, we had such delicacies as salami. ham and pork." The store was sold out by nightfall. Even the unofficial price of

Kent cigarettes, for years Romania's unofficial "black" currency to procure goods in great demand, dropped dramatically from about 200 lei per pack as some of the cigarettes appeared in the local stores, several people said. At the official exchange rate,

banks give 8.81 lei to the dollar,

about the same as before the

The old central committee headquarters in now guarded by soldiers with automatic weapons but they have had trouble at times telling their allies from Ceausescu loyalists.

Tigau recalled that he and the army captain in charge of security at the revolutionary headquarters were detained as they walked nearby before dawn one morning by anxious young soldiers manning an armoured personnel car-

Guns were taken away from the two, Tigan recalled, and a young soldier asked the officer in charge: "What do we do now: shoot them?" Instead, they were taken to the nearby palace of culture where soldiers with cooler heads checked their identities and let them go.

Civilians unaccustomed to weapons that had been strictly controlled carried guns in the first days of the revolt, adding to the

uncertainty and tension. Mihai Avadanei, an English teacher and translator, said in Amazement: "I'm 48 years old. and I was carrying a gun - and I was ready to use it."

But in contrast to the heavy presence of soldiers and paratroopers around Romani's new leaders in Bucharest, there is no security provided for the local leaders or their families in Isasi.

That leaves some of them uneasy because about 200 members of Ceausescu's Securitate secret police stationed in Iasi disappeared after the revolt. The army confiscated their weapons. but many people believe the Securitate police had secret stocks of guns.

Beyond the day-to-day problems. Tigau reserves his revolutionary passion for changing the country's agricultural system and bringing better qualified people into the leadership. Leaders in Bucharest already

have announced that they intend to restore the principle of private "Everyone should take as

much land as he and his family can work without hiriding someone else to work for him." Tigau said. "A hard-working man can have everything, but a lazy man has nothing or changes his job."

Pressure for change increasing on French communist chief

By Harry Dunphy
The Associated Press

PARIS — The upheavals in Eastern Europe are increasing the pressure for change in France's troubled Communist Party, led for the past 17 years by George Marchais.

Marchais isn't the only Western Communist Party chief scrambling to adapt to the downfall of the hardliners to the East; the Italian and Portuguese Communists are also grappling with the realignment of the East and

There have been calls for the resignation of Marchais, 69, who has been battered by a reformist wing within his own party as well as other political adversaries. Among the most telling charges are accusations that Marchais maintained close ties, including vacation outings, with ousted Romanian dictator Nico-

When Marchais was a rising star in the mid-1950s, the Communist Party dominated the left in French politics and took a quarter of the vote. In recent national elections it has been hard pressed to get 10 per cent. Party membership, once officially set at 700,000, is now be-

lae Ceausescu.

Many members of a reformist wing of the party, who advocate the same openness and restructuring as Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, have been purged in recent years, in keeping with the French party's Stalinist tradi-

lieved to be under 200,000.

Like other large Communist parties in Europe, the French Communists maintain they saw glasnost coming and prepared the ground with Eurocommunism, a 1970s attempt to reconcile Communist orthodoxy with life in a Western parliamentary democracy.

But the French party opted for Eurocommunism without really believing in it and then found itself confronted by those who took it seriously.

The reformist wing that sprang up maintains that the party has not been able to adjust to the reality of modern French society. the shrinking of the blue collar population that long was its power base and the emergence of a high technology, service-oriented

It also would like to fashion a left-wing "rainbow politics," reaching out, for example, to embrace such issues as ecology, women's rights and educational reform as Italian Communists have done to remain popular.

The Italian Communist Party. the largest Communist Party in the West and the no. 2 political party in Italy, has experienced dwindling vote returns in recent years, after coming to the brink of power in 1976 with 34 per cent of the vote nationally.

The party has long pledged adherence to Western parliamentary democracy. It criticised Moscow's interference in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Afghanistan in 1979, and supported Italy's membership in NATO.

Spain's tiny Communist Party and its several splinters have hardly been affected by the changes in the hard-line parties in Eastern Europe. Spain's PCE enthusiastically espoused Eurocommunism as Spain was emerging from a 36-year fascist dictatorship. Since then many onceprominent Spanish Communists have become socialists or centrists, or have abandoned politics.

The party was important in the organised, clandestine resistance to Gen. Francisco Franco, and it publicly criticised the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia

Portugal's Communist Party. on the other hand, resisted the Eurocommunist movement and gained a reputation as one of the strictest adherents to Marxist-Leninist orthodox. It supported Soviet military intervention in Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, failed to condemn the crushing of pro-democracy protesters in China and sent a delegation to the 1989 Romanian Communist Party congress that confirmed Ceausescu in power before his overthrow in December.

Critics say the Portuguese Communist Party must become more democratic internally and adopt a modernised electoral programme recognising Portugal's position as a democratic state in order to halt an electoral slide from some 20 per cent in the early 1980s to 12.3 per cent in local elections Dec. 17:

But the reformers' criticism has

been rejected. On Jan. 3. the Portuguese Communist Party's central committee expelled leading dissident Zita Seabra from the party after she demanded the resignation of

the leadership. Seabra and other perestroikainspired reformers accused the leadership of being left behind by events in Eastern Europe and called for radical reforms, including the abandonment of traditional tenets of Markist-Lenimist ideology and a change in the party's name.

The Portuguese party has been lead by Alvaro Cunhal since 1961. Cunhal accepts Gorbachev's reforms in the Soviet Union, but warns aggressive antisocialist forces backed by Western imperialism in Eastern Europe could "compromise the building of socialism." He also rejects the proposed reforms within his own party.

Similarly, in France Marchais and the party leadership have refused to make any concessions to the reformers and have accused them of attempting to. cause disruption.

Since he does not intend to introduce any Gorbachev-style reforms in his own party, Marchais can pay lip service to them, as he did at the last party confress in 1987. He maintains the French Communists years ago began to reappraise the Soviet model and declared their independence

from Moscow. In recent days editorial cartoons in rightist and leftist daily newspapers have poked fun at Marchais while reporting on the growing dissent within the party. One cartoon showed Marchais dressed as Napoleon with the four former Communist ministers in the government calling on him

to abdicate. In reply, the Communist daily L'Humanite published two pages of letters Tuesday from the sackloads it said were arriving daily from party faithful who support

Marchais. It also published four pages of pictures of Ceausescu posting with other French political leaders. from the left and right, showing that Marchais was not alone in cozying up to the Romanian dic-

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Fahri Salameh (right) defends his master's dissertation at the University of Jordan

First blind person to get MA from U of J images of imperialism

By Ma'moun Arar Special to the Jordan Times

Fahd Salameh is the first visually handicapped person to obtain a master of arts degree in English literature from the University of Jordan. He is also the writer of the essay on Eliot which won the first prize of the competition held 13 months ago, organised by the British Council in Amman on the centenary anniversary of Eliot's birthday. He presently works at Radio Jordan and his colleagues there express their admiration for his accuracy in his work. I took this occasion and asked Fahd to tell me something about his dissertation The Portrait of Imperialism, why he chose this subject and the contribution he

"I cannot claim to have contributed much to literature through this dissertation, since the work ! have undertaken can simply be classified among the assimilative type of dissertations, rather than the original ones. Many books deal with Conrad and Kipling either singly or together; therefore, apart from the new presentation in which the subject is treated, I claim no significant contribution to be made on my

makes by presenting it.

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The Portrait of Imperialism is 4. study of theme and character-in Joseph Conrad and Rudyard Kipling; it is an attempt to present the picture of impenalism as portrayed by the fiction of these two artists who, more than other contemporary writers, were deeply concerned with the question of imperialism. The study which covers three major works by each of Conrad and Kipling is in 108

pages of four chapters, an introdoction, a conclusion, notes and works cited.

In the first chapter, a definition of impenalism is formulated and an analogy between history proper and fiction is drawn. The second chapter presents the two aspects of the imperialist agents represented in the military and economic agents of imperialism who are simply the soldier and the entreprender.

The third chapter exposes the exploitative nature of imperialism which uses its agents as instruments for exploiting indigenous societies; however and in the final analysis, those agents themselves are presented to be no less exploited by their masters than the oppressed peoples.

The fourth chapter reveals how the agents of imperialism attempted to orientate themselves to their new societies. The sudden transportation of the European agents from their protected societies into primitive ones brought about psychological transformation; lack of self-restraint an absence of a spiritual basis for their missions, led to physical and psychological defeats in their personal and official

The study shows the difference approach by the two artists towards imperialism through the adoption of Darwinism and Marxism by Kipling and Conrad respectively.

"The choice of this subject has been the result of a conviction arrived at through the study of these two artists that within the Western world, there exists a sort of schism or division towards

impenalism's declared philathropic intentions and aims; and this division is deeply rooted and goes back to the time of imperialism's heydays. Thus I find it worthwhile to lay emphasis on the different attitudes which Europeans adopt towards the policies of their governments when tackling the Orient", according to

Q. Do you intend to carry on your studies and obtain a Ph.D.

A. At the moment there is no such a programme at the University of Jordan. I shall attempt to look for any possibility of obtaining a scholarship or a grant that may provide for such a step. Q. How did you overcome the difficulty of reading books for your research?

A. First, I received many books in Braille from the Students' Braille Library in London that helped me much in my study. Nevertheless, the main sources are in inkprint and I needed people to record them for me. this respect, I owe gratitude to many of my colleagues at the university.

Q. How involved are you in the

blind community in Jordan?

A. I am a member of the Friendship Association for the Blind and I think it is my duty to help other blind persons in their studies through all available means. His Highness Prince Ra'd plays a great role in promoting the cause of the blind in Jordan culturally and economically through his continuous efforts in providing concernatives of work and study for this part of our Jordanian community.

Media at their freest after Romanian revolution

By George Jahn The Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania -Romania's whirlwind revolution has given the news media the most freedom they've had in decades, leaving journalists joyful but uncertain about the future.

Formerly glum reporters who, reluctantly accepted constraints appear transformed now that they can tell it as they see it. "We're finally doing our real job," said Marian Bistriceanu,

37, who works for Romanian

short-wave radio. "We are free to think, to have our own opinions, we are free to ask the questions we think we should ask, and we are free to broadcast the information we gather in this way," Bistriceanu

said in a recent interview. His face -- a picture of misery during the November party congress, where all news revolved around Ceausescu — was suffused with happiness, as he tried to express what reporting freedom meant to him.

"What Ceausescu did to us was not create lack of bread or lack of heat," he said, alluding to the privation of recent years. "He tried to put our spirit in chains."

"The chains are broken." Other journalists expressed similar sentiments in interviews about the 24-year Ceausescu era, ended last month.

Before the upheaval, newspapers, radio and television were in the firm grip of a repressive apparatus that often took orders directly from Ceausescu himself.

That translated into a media show where newspapers, magazines and broadcast outlets were virtually the preserve of the "supreme leader" and his wife Elena. During the 14th congress of the Communist Party in November, where delegates rose and sat at the imperial wave of Ceausescu's

hand, the few hours of television

programming available daily were devoted to songs and heroic poems praising the pair. More than 60 per cent of newspaper content also dealt with their activities. The personality cult that deformed Romania'

news media under the Ceausescu even extended to magazines meant for foreign consumption. The English version of the foreign policy weekly Lumea appearing Dec. 15, the eve of the

revolution, devoted 24 of its 32 pages to the dictator, liberally laced with praise of his "tireless initiatives" and "innovative thinking." Then came the revolution. And

less than two weeks later, an unrecognisable I nmea "This is the first time the weekly Lumeainternational expresses itself free-

ly," the initial post-revolution issue proclaimed in a first-page

"We shall write, we shall keep on writing what we think, we shall write the truth, the real truth of this country," the editorial proclaimed.

Inside articles dealt with the revolution and joyfully

"Before the upheaval, newspapers, radio and television were in the firm grip of a repressive apparatus that often took orders directly from Ceausescu himself. That translated into a media show where newspapers. magazines and broadcast outlets were virtually the preserve of the 'supreme leader' and his wife Elena."

announced the end of the dictatorship under headlines such as "the hour has come for romania's

reunion with the world." The issue was the work of Lumea editor Radu Budeanu who worked feverishly to put together its 16 pages following

Ceausescu's overthrow.

Budeanu, interviewed in the imposing Soviet-built palace housing the state print media, guarded against counter-revolution by AK-47 toting employees, was challient over his new-found freedoms. But the joy was tinged by awareness of the unclear future of a country in flux.

"I got the first issue published, and the second issue" is about 10 appear. "But I don't know about the third issue," said Budeanu,

"The whole press changing, and we have no models after more than 40 years of Communism, we are starting from zero."

"In the old days, the press section in the central committee was directed by a secretary, who frequently turned to Ceausescu himself for advice, so in a way Ceanseson was the editor of the whole media," he said. "That's history, but we still

have to be careful about turncoats," he cautioned. "It is essential that the Ceanscescuists don't elbow their way (back) into power after shedding their ideology." Even a tenuous press freedom

with an unclear future is welcomed by a readership used to decades of stupifying propaganda, however. Rarely read before, the dailies

are now snapped up by Romanians who line up by the hundreds in front of newspaper outlets they used to avoid.

Even the new free press does not always satisfy. "Now they are writing the truth about the (dismal) economic situation and about society," said

Bogdan Lazaroae, a 20-year-old

student.

A child of the intifada

Heather Spears, a Canadian artist and poet based in Denmark, visited the Israeli-occupied territory in early 1989 to draw sketches of Palestinian children wounded in the intifada. Ameena (above), aged 12, was shof in the head with a rubber bullet while trying to bring her little brother in from the street during a confrontation between youths and soldiers. She was operated on, the bullet was removed and she has recovered (UNRWA).

Illustrated Koran stirs controversy

By Marilyn August The Associated Press

PARIS (AP) - A colorful, easyto-read version of the Koran in comic book form has won approval from some Islamic authorities, but one scholar has condemned it, calling the author "a new Salman Rushdie."

"Si le Coran M'etait Conte" (if the Koran were told to me published by alef and costing 57 francs (\$10), is geared to readers aged 12 to 16, says its author, ousef Seddik.

The Koran is the sacred book of Islam. According to Islamic belief, it contains the words of God as revealed to the Prophet Mohammad during his life at Mecca and Medina.

The comic books have been approved - and even encouraged - by some religious authorities like Ayatollah Mehdi Rouhani, spiritual leader of the Shiite Muslim community in Europe.

"I don't see any problem with the comic books, as long as you know there is a precedent — an illustrated version of the Koran published in Iran 15 years ago," Rouhani said in an interview at

his Paris home. Citing the evolution of language and writing over the centuries, Rouhani called comic books "the language of the 20th century."

"I'm all for comic books, and would encourage them if they do, in fact, get across the idea of God to young people," he said. But Mohammad Faidallah.

dies Centre, was quoted Friday as saying the comic books could spark a furour like the outcry over Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses." Iran's late Ayatollah Ruhollah

head of Islamic jurisprudence at

Kuwait University's Islamic Stu-

Khomeini sentenced Rushdie to death in February 1989 for allegedly blaspheming Islam in his novel. Rushie, an Indian-born British citizen, has been in hiding ever since.

Faidallah said the comic books constituted a "criminal act that ridicules the sanctity of the Holy Koran." and called for their condemnation, the Kuwait newspaper Al Qabas reported.

He was quoted as calling Seddik "a new Salman Rushdie recruited to carry out this ugly task." Faidallah urged Arab and Islamic embassies in Paris "to pressure official bodies there with a view to halting such violation of Islamic values," the daily said.

Seddik, 46, a Tunisian-born journalist and academic who has written extensively on Arab culture, said Friday evening he was "deeply saddened" by Faidallah's reaction and disputed the scholar's right to judge the issue.

"Islam is my emotional and spiritual roots. Nothing, no one can ever take it away from me." Seddik said in a telephone inter-

"I'm deeply attached to the principle that distinguishes Islam from Judaiism and Christianity: That it does not accept the idea of the clergy. Only the knowledge,

competence and good intentions of the humblest Muslim can judge our actions." In an earlier interview, Seddik

told the Associated Press he was motivated to adapt the Koran because of the frustration he suffered while studying the holy text "I remember feeling very sad

that we had to learn the text by heart, without any comprehension or understanding of what it meant." he said.

Seddik said the drawings and simple language can help young readers follow the narrative development of the Koran's numerous episodes, while avoiding its "inextricable forest of syntactic. lexical and theological difficul-

Volume one, entitled "The Cursed Peoples," contains vivid pictures of desert people worshipping idols, living in sin and crime and deaf of pleas of the prophets to change their ways and worship single god.

The drawings, which Rouhani described as "naive and simplistic." are accompanied by exact quotations from the Koran, complete with chapter and verse references. The prophets are not represented, but evoked by flashes of light.

Seddik said he was careful not to offend or blaspheme in any way and readily destroyed 10,000 copies of a 1986 edition which

Algeria and Tunisia.

displeased religious authorities. The new version, he said, was approved by religious bodies in

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rector of the grand mosque in Paris was less enthusiastic. "Comic books dealing with transcendental issues have no instructive value, and, in fact frustrate the development of the adolescent imagination," said Jhaothy Hadjeddine Sari in a telephone interview.

However, a spokesman for the

"Imposing an image of the transcendental on a young person is tantamount to castration," be said. "I can't see teaching the Koran in comic books any more than I can imagine teaching philospohy or math."

Seddik said his desire to publish the comic books was motivated politically.

"The rise of Arab fundamentalism is partly a result of the way the Koran is being taught as something opaque and incantatory, understood by the elite few who run Islam like a secret society to which only they have access," he said.

Seddik admits that comic books transgress one of the key tenants of Islam — the reproduction of images.

"Of course, it's a taboo, but I'm willing to assume full responsibility," he said.

Seddik says he respects the sacredness of Islam. Seddik, who has lived in Paris

since 1983, said the seven-volume project was financed by Hocine Meddahi, an Algerian industrie!ist who lives in Paris. Three volumes have already appeared, in French and Arabic, and an English translation is in progress.

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Ceausescus stole people's art treasures

By George Jahn The Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania - The Ceausescu ruling family, Communists with royal tastes, hoarded thousands of valuable artworks looted from public museums, the nation's culture minister said last week. Andrei Piesu, a respected art

historian and philosopher who is the new minister of culture, said his task was to "revive a corpse," a ministry killed by a 24 years of twisted policy. Plesu was banished to the pro-

vinces for drawing the ire of President Nicolae Ceausescu, who he said "stole from our patrimony objects of art and used them in his own house." Plesu estimated the Counsescus

expropriated thousands of valuable works by Romanian and foreign artists. "There were houses full of such objects," Plesu said, adding that, while he had not had a chance to study the inventory, he believed Flemish masters were among the

artists whose paintings were illogally taken. The deposed and executed dictator had no appreciation for art,

said Plesu. "It was a simple matter of greed," he said. "He had to possess these works." Plesu's interview with the Associated Press took place in a

chilly and gloomy conference hall of the culture ministry, known in Ceausescu's era as the council of culture and socialist education. Plesa said ministry employees

had just begun work on an inventory of paintings, sculptures and other art objects reclaimed from dozens of houses and vacation homes used by the Ceausescu cian — the dictator, his wife Elena, their son Nica and other relatives.

Ceauseson's hunger for art treasures appeared to be common knowledge in Romania.

Bogdan Lazaroae, a 21-year. old student, said in a separate interview that the art museum in his home city of Sibiu, 250 blometres northwest of Bucharest, had been forced to contribute a rembrandt to the

Ceanseson collection.

Plesu, forced last year to move from Bucharest to a Bacan district town near the border to Soviet Moldavia after signing a letter critical of the state-run wri-

socialism."

For all your:

ters' union. vision of what constitued art.

Pless described the culture ministry under his predecessors as "an institution organised against culture" that suppressed most artistic expression not complimentary to the Ceausescus or to their ideas of "scientific

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··· Ticketing and

"I have to sevive a corpse," he

Much of the culture budget of past years was spent on Cintarea Romaniei - a nearly continuous festival of music, literature and dance designed to pay homage to the Ceausescus and their narrow

Other cultural events had to be approved by the head organisers of Cintarea Romaniei, who, in min, answered to the Ceausescus

The festival has been discontinged, and Plesu announced that the ministry would more than double last year's budget of 600 million lei (about \$55 million), to

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1.4 billion lei (\$135 million) to infuse new life in cultural activities forced underground under the Ceansescu leadership.

In the interview, Plesu said there had been no wholesale purge of his ministry, but main culprits of past excesses - Suzanna Gidea, Ceansescu's leading culture official, and others - had been retired, while the more than 30-strong censorship department had been dissolved.

Plesn said the cuts had reduced the staff of 180 he inherited to about 140, and plans were to prune it to 90.

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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

ABC selects Jordan as gate to banking in the Arab World

By Samir Ghawi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has met two key criteria that prompted the Arab Banking Corporation (Bahrain) to choose the Kingdom as its first base to launch an e _ansion programme in the Arab 'World under the name Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) Jordan, ABC Executive President Abdallah Saudi told a press conference Sunday.

Saudi classified the Arab World into three categories: Those practising the free market system, the countries which apply varied limitations and those which he described as closed markets. He said that the Jordanian free market policies and the richness of the human resources in Jordan were the main factors behind ABC's choice of the Kingdom to enter the Arab World market.

The ABC chief noted that for any project or investment to be successful; the financial resources; the human resources and the right circumstances have to form the profitable climate to ensure the continuity of any programme in the first place.

Saudi said the decision to come to Jordan was not a short-term strategy but rather a long-term venture as ABC, headquartered in Bahrain, spent the first decade of operations expanding in Europe, the Americas and the Far East and now, in its second decade, it is targeting the Arab World as it should be — being an Arab institution dedicated for Arab economic integration.

The Libyan national Saudi described ABC as the largest inter-

TEL AVIV (R) — The Cana-

dian-based Belzberg Group has-

offered \$130 million for Israel's

troubled Koor Industries con-

glomerate, Israel radio has re-

on the government providing a

\$50 million credit for the trade

union-owned concern, which

It said the offer was conditional

national Arab bank with branches in 21 countries around the globe noting that, since its inception Jan. 17, 1980, the corporation had gained international experience and standard among world top banks. ABC late last year was classified in the A level category by Standard and Poor, the renowned watchdog of world

performance. The advantages, according to Saudi, for Jordan from ABC investment is therefore the wide network of operations and the new products that the corporation can put in service of Jordanian retail and corporate sectors.

banks in terms of evaluating their

ABC (Jordan), which started normal and full commercial banking services Sunday, is the product of a takeover by ABC (Bahrain) of Jordan Securities Corporation (JSC) which ran into some financial difficulties a few years back. The Housing Bank

was a major shareholder in JSC. However, Saudi dismissed any link between ABC (Bahrain) and JSC or the mere connotation that ABC bailed out the troubled JSC. He insisted that ABC wanted to expand its Arab presence and that Jordan was the

owes Israeli. and foreign banks

not able to comment on the fi-

of the giant Histadrut Labour

Federation, is-Israel's biggest in-

dustrial employer with 20,000

workers in businesses ranging

A Koor spokesman said he was

Koor, the manufacturing arm

Belzberg bids to buy troubled Koor

about \$1 billion.

ideal choice and, in particular, the Housing Bank as a partner for its prominence in the Kingdom. ABC (Jordan) is 60 per cent

held by ABC (Bahrain), 25 per cent by the Housing Bank and the remaining 15 per cent by other shareholders of the now defunct JSC. The new bank's board of directors, chosen last week, in clude four institutions representing ABC (Bahrain), three institutions representing the Housing Bank and a member representing

the other 15 per cent party. The new bank will not hire any staff at this stage because the employees are already there from the Housing Bank and the dissolved ISC but will be considering new staff and new branches in Jordan as business develops in

the future. Near the end of the press conference, Saudi responded to some questions saying that ABC constantly keeps a high liquidity ratio and that its earning assets are spread approximately 46 per cent in Europe and 25 per cent in the

Arab World.

ABC (Jordan) is capitalised at JD 10 million spread over 10 million shares while ABC (Bahrain), the parent company is capitalised at \$1 billion recently authorised to be \$1.5 billion — of which \$750 million is paid up by the three shareholders: The finance ministry o Kuwait, Libya's treasury and the investment company of Abu

Dhabi. The paid up capital will be raised to \$1 billion, part of which will be for public subscription, in line with the increase in the authorised capital.

from electronics to cement, food

processing and telecommunica-

ministry favoured the offer by

Belzberg brothers, who have

wide interests in real estate.

manufacturing and financial ser-

vices in the United States and

Canda, but Koor's management

The company has expressed

interest in an undisclosed bid by

the U.S.-based Shamrock Invest-

ment Corporation for a 51 per

cent stake in Koor, also con-

ditional on the government and

Israeli officials have stressed

Koor has declared its inability to

bonds and will formally be in

default at the end of this month.

deadline. It's the payment day,'

the Koor spokesman said.

"January 31 is a very important

opposed the bid.

Israel radio said the finance

India emphasises pragmatism

"As a degree of self-reliance

He said India was not currently

The World Bank has estimated

India will have a current account

deficit of \$6.2 billion in 1989/90

against \$5.4 billion the year be-

pragmatic about foreign invest-

ment, which was only around

in certain fields the import of

technology is inevitable, and we'll

not hesitate to import it," he said.

nately welcome foreign capital

defeat the political will to build

an economy of self-reliance," he

The National Front govern-

ment that came to power after

November elections would also

"But we will not indiscrimi-

\$150 million in 1988.

Dandavate said India would be

"We can't deny the reality that

grows, the degree of external

noted.

NEW DELHI (R) — India, determined to curb its growing foreign debt, will be pragmatic about foreign investment and exchange controls while trying to trim increasing trade and budget deficits, Finance Minister Madhu Danadavate said.

"There is an urgent need for seeking a loan from the Internaour country not to get entangled in a debt trap," Dandavate said in tional Monetary Fund but would not rule it out. "Our inention an interview Saturday. depend on the situation."

External debt will rise to \$60 billion by the end of the 1989/90 financial year in March from \$55 billion the year before, he said. "That would imply the debt service ratio would be more than. 30 per cent, whereas the safe ratio is about 20 per cent," said

career as a physics professor. -"The implication is that about one-third of our foreign exchange earnings will be spent on interest repayments rather than on developmental activities," he said. Debt service ratio is the prop-

ortion of export earnings needed

Dandavate, 65, who began his

to repay debt. India's foreign exchange reserves fell to \$3.2 billion at the end of December from \$4.3 billion at the end of 1988, according to official figures — enough to

pay the import bill for two-and-a-half months. be pragmatic about foreign exchange controls, he said. India does not allow private "There is no soft solution to individuals to have foreign cur-(debt reduction) except a long-

drawn process to build an ecorency accounts and restricts them nomy of self-reliance," said from sending foreign exchange Dandavate, former head of the defunct Indian Socialist Party.

"If any regulation becomes a hindrance to tourists as well as to improving our foreign exchange borrowing wil go down," he reserves we'll revise it." Dandavate said.

The government was determined to stop, the depreciation of the rupee, which has lost more than 30 per cent of its value against the dollar over the past three years, he said.

"To check the depreciation we would like to restrain deficits mop up excess liquidity, and also check increasingly money supply," he explained.

Broad money supply (M3) expanded by 19.5 per cent from December 1988 to December 1989, according to official figures.

The new government has asserted its populist credentials by announcing it would write off. loans of up to 10,000 rupees (\$500) for poor farmers and rural and technology because that will

> Critics have said the cost of the plan, estimated at around \$7 billion, would put incredible strain on the central budget and the banking system.

> But Dandavate said the loan forgiveness would evolve over a period of several years to soften the shock to banks.

Board of Audit calls for more Japanese aid control

TOKYO (AP) — Japan has poorly managed its massive overseas aid programme and needs to give more consideration to the needs of developing nations, the Board of Audit said in a report.

"Government organisations in charge of the projects should strengthen ties between themselves nd recipient countries so that Japan can grasp the conditions of the projects and make more effective use of overseas aid," according to the board's annual report on government waste and inefficiency.

Japan has budgeted about 1.4 trillion yen (\$9.4 billion) for overseas aid during the current fiscal year, which ends in March 1990. The country is expected to be the world's largest aid donor during the period.

Japan's overseas aid has grown rapidly in recent years, and with it has come criticism that it does not pay enough attention to the needs of recipients.

A shortage of qualified aid administrators has made it difficult to identify deserving proiects and monitor their progress, officials say.

The board cited two aid projects which it said had been ineffective, but did not identify the recipient countries.

In one project, involving transportation, Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund loaned 4.0 billion yen (\$33.3 million) between 1975 and 1980 for the purchase of 65 diesel train cars and the building of repair facili

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

The recipient country, however, never completed the repair facilities because of a lack of funds, and as a result 42 of the 65 cars are out of operation, the report said.

Another project involving technology transfer and the building of pilot factories for 500 million yen (\$3.5 million) is more than six years behind schedule. the report said.

"The delay was partly because

Japan did not offer additional help after the recipient had financial problems," the report said. Newspapers identified the location of the two projects as the Philippines and Egypt respec-

The board said Japan's official

development assistance was not effectively used in six out of 56 aid projects it audited during the 1988 fiscal year. About 17.2 billion yen (\$120

million) in equipment and facilities were involved in the six projects, it said. The Board of Audit said that

overall, the total amount of government funds misappropriated or poorly allocated during the year amounted to 15.1 billion yen (\$105 million) in 202 cases, up from 10.7 billion yen (\$74 million) in 107 cases the previous

Among the major abuses were: excessive medical insurance payments and grants to local governments, the report said.

Arab ship repair yard makes first net profit

BAHRAIN (R) — An Arab ship- ing an August 1988 ceasefire in building and repair yard has said the Iran-Iraq war have boosted it made a net profit in 1989 of \$4.2 million, after 10 years of

Arab Ship Repair Yard (ASRY) General Manager Antonio Machado Lopes told Reuters the Bahrain-based company expected profits to soar in the 1990s on rising oil exports from the Gulf and a worldwide boom in shipping traffic.

"In the coming years, the Gulf could be supplying most of the world's oil - if the area remains peaceful, the future of ship repair yards in the Gulf is very bright," he said.

Lopes said the company made a net loss in 1988, after subtracting depreciation costs, but de-

clined to give a figure. He said operating profit rose to

\$10.5 million in 1989, from \$445,000 the previous year while turnover leaped to \$47 million from \$26 million.

Lower insurance rates follow-

might take a \$10 million loan for the project. ASRY was also studying options on a third drydock and a

business for Gulf shipyards by

making it cheaper for vessels to

a secod drydock at an estimated

cost of \$55 million to take advan-

It would be able to take ships

of up to 150,000 deadweight ton-

nes and would be mainly self-

financed, he said. But ASRY

tage of the business boom.

Lopes said ASRY would build

stay in the waterway.

decision was expected by the end of February, Lopes said. The company's existing drydock can take 500,000-tonne ships and is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United

Arab Emirates and Libya. The biggest drydock in the Gulf. Dubaia, which can handle one ship of one million tonnes.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

World Bank lends Morocco \$49m

RABAT (R) — The World Bank has lent Morocco \$49 million to save and develop forests, fight erosion and produce firewoods. The 20-year loan with a five-year grace period carries a variable interest rate, currently 7.75 per cent, the official news agency. MAP has said.

Arms help Saudi industry

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabian Industry Minister Abdulaziz Af Zamel has said that his country's big arms purchases from abroad. have helped boost local industry. "Saudi Arabia has profited from its foreign defence purchases to a large extent through the establishment of joint industrial and services companies with those who signed contracts with the ministry of defence," Zamel has told Sandi television. "The kingdom will buy military equipment to defend itself, but at the same time asks foreign companies to put part of their investments in the kingdom against these purchases," the Saudi Press Agency, received in Cyprus, quoted him as saying. He said two major projects had already canerged as part of this policy. He expected four other projects to follow but did not specify them. Saudi Arabia last month unveiled a \$38.1 billion budget allocating 36 per cent for defence — the biggest military budget in the Middle East.

Investcorp reports record profit

BAHRAIN (R) — The Arabian Investment Banking Corporation (Investcorp) has said its 1989 net profit rose by 12 per cent to a record \$51.8 million. The Bahrain-based bank, which has shareholders in six Gulf Arab states, said in a statement that earnings grew for the seventh successive year. Operating income rose to \$77.3 million in 1989 from \$67.8 million in 1988, while assets grew to \$813.9 million from \$745.2 million. The bank channels private investment into Western companies. It announced a profit of \$46.2 million in 1988. Directors have recommended a \$15 million cash dividend to shareholders to be approved at the Jan. 30 annual meeting, Investcorp said. The amount represents a constant 15 per cent of paid share capital.

Vietnam plans to raise oil output

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnam has said it planned to produce 2.5 million tonnes of crude oil in 1990, which its said was equivalent to the total produced over the last four years. Radio Hanoi said oil comapnies from Australia, Canada, Japan, Sweden and the United States were looking into investment possibilities in Vietnam. The broadcast noted that joint production and exploitation agreements had already been signed with companies from Belgium, Britain, France, India and the Netherlands. The agreements were made under liberal foreign investment laws introduced in 1988. All Vietnam's crude is still produced by a joint venture with the Soviet Union at the White Tiger field off the southern port of Vung Tau and exported for refining abroad. The radio said the country planned to go ahead with construction of its own refinery with a capacity of three million tonnes per year. at the end of this year. Vietnam now imports more than two million tonnes of petroleum products annually, most of it from the Soviet Union.

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EC inflation slows in November.

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Consumer prices in the 12 European Community (EC) nations rose by an average of 0.4 per cent in November, slowing from a 0.6 per cent increase in October, according to figures released by the EC statistics agency. Eurostat. Eurostat said EC inflation would be about 5.5 per cent for the whole of 1989, up from 4.4 per cent in 1988 and 3.4 per cent in 1987. The highest price increases in November were in Portugal, with one per cent, and in Britain and Greece with 0.9 per cent each. Prices were unchanged in the Netherlands, while the consumer price index fell 0.1 per cent in Belgium. According to Eurostat, the rates of inflation for the 12 European countries in 1989 were as follows: Greece, 14 per cent; Portugal, 11.5 per cent; Britain, 7.5 per cent; Spain, 7.0 per cent; Italy, 6.0 per cent; Denmark, 4.8 per cent; Ireland, 4.7 per cent; Luxembourg, 3.8 per cent; France, 3.5 per cent; Belgium 3.3 per cent; West Germany, 3.0 per cent and Netherlands, 1.2 per cent.

S. Korea faces slow growth

SEOUL (AP) - South Korea's export-oriented economy will continue to experience difficulty and grow only 6.5 per cent next year with higher inflation and unemployment, officials said Friday. In a report to a meeting of top government officials and ruling and opposition leaders, the Economic Planning Board (EPB) said next year's government policy will put emphasis on reducing labour protests. "Unless industrial peace is achieved, our economy will face an enormous problem next year, with the growth rate plunging below five per cent and unemployment rising," the EPB report said. The meeting, presided over by President Roh Tae-Woo, was attended by about 100 senior government officials and opposition leaders, including Kim Dae-Jung of the Party for Peace and Democracy. After annual double-digit growth rates in 1986-88, the report said the Korean economy would expand only 6.5 per cent this year. A similar trend would continue next year with sluggish exports and high inflation, it said. Exports, the prime mover of the South Korean economy, have been slow so far this year, forcing officials to revise their target several times to \$62 billion. Inflation is expected to reach five to six per cent this year.

calls for free market EAST BERLIN (AP) — East. Germany has announced limited price increases and its communist economics minister has called

Communist minister

for a free-market economy as the state that once insisted it would remain a "socialistic altenative" continued major economic changes.

East Germans crowded stores Saturday, seeking goods before the announced increases take effect Monday. The government claims the li-

mited increases are necessary as it starts dismantling the costly and inefficient state subsidies for dozens of basic goods, including clothing and food. Meanwhile, East German Eco-

nomics Minister Christa Luft became the highest-ranking government official to call for a freemarket economy, as demanded by potential Western investors. 'Ît must be an efficient freemarket economy that proves it-

commercial banks bearing a share tive," Luft told leading West of the concern's debt. German industrialists, including Daimler-Benz chief Edzard Reuthe urgency of a solution since ter and Volkswagen chairman Carl Hahn. service \$105 million of U.S.

Luft said such an economic system must also take into account social and environmental

concerns. Potential Western investors, including those from Western Germany, have demanded a freemarket system as a condition for greater investment in East Ger-

The country has had a centrally planned economy since its founding in 1949. But the hardline leadership that supported the planned economy, led by Erich Honekeer, was removed Oct. 10 amid a public outcry for econo-

mic and social reform. East Germany's parliament Friday cleared the way for joint ventures with foreign companies, in hopes of attracting badly needed Western capital to boister the sagging economy.



fresh, the coffee is fresh, the donuts are fresh, you're stale!"

self to be internationally competi-Hungary announces massive price hikes BUDAPEST (AP) - The gov-

ernment has announced a range of consumer price hikes that made most basic consumer items more than 25 per cent more expensive, the state MTI news agency reported.

Meat prices rose by 32 per cent, bread by 26 per cent and milk and dairy products 42-43 per cent, MTI quoted a government state-

Some of the increases resulted from an end to state price controls. The nw policy is part of an austerity budget adopted by parliament last month.

The cost of cigarettes, beer and spirits rose by 20-22 per cent, while rents increased by 35 per

Hungarians had to pay 45 per cent more for urban public transport, and 55 per cent more for mass tansit in the Budapest area. Inter-city road and rail fares went up by 20 per cent, MTI said.

The cost of some imported cars rose 25 per cent, while regular gasoline cost 29.5 forints a litre, a hike of 3.50 forints (five cents). A rise of 336 per cent in water and sewage rates was justified by a cut in state subsidies and previously "irrationally low" prices,

To offset the hikes, the government would raise state pensions

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, January 14, 1989 Central Bank official rates

U.S. dollar **Pound Sterling** Deutschemark Swiss franc

656.0 1079.6 1090.4 385.4 389.3 434.1 438.4

French franc 113.1 114.2 Japanese yen (for 100) 445.8 450.3 Dutch guilder 341.6 345.0 Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian lira (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)

341.6 106.1 51.7 184.8

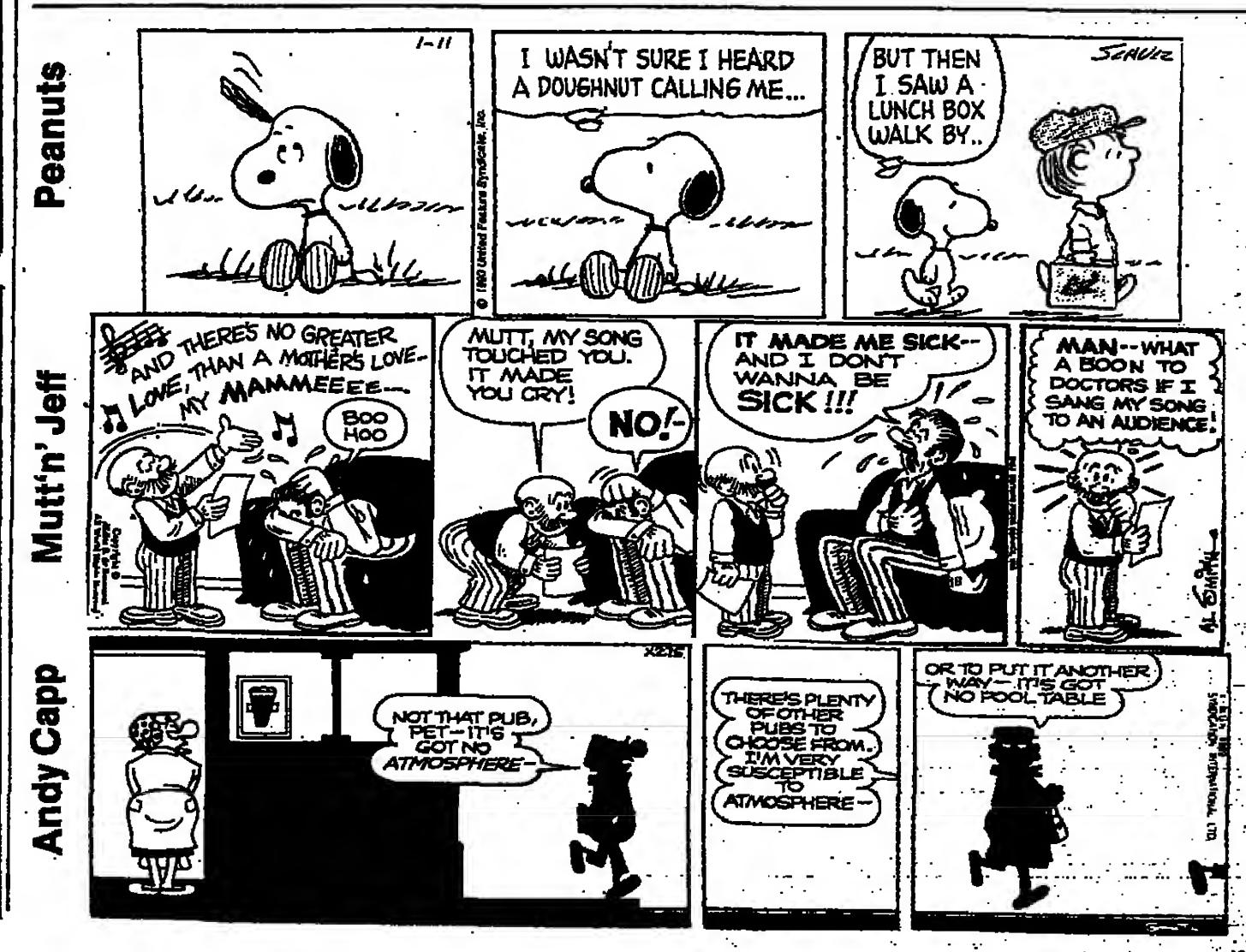
107.2 52.2 186.6

cent as subsidies were withdrawn,

MTI said. and family allowances, MTI said.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. FELCT G THE TORSING MADE SPECIAL TORSING THE ENAKO IT WAS OFF-INSHIF SEASON FOR FISHING, WHICH IS WHY THE SHERIFF MADE IT THIS. SENFU Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sugrested by the above cartoon. Jumbles: SCARY FRIAR BLUISH RAVAGE

Answer: What came between those two poets turned professional boxers?—"VERSUS" (verses)



Masters Cup:

Netherlands beats Italy

SAO PAULO, Brezil (AF) -- A goal from midfield by fullback Hovemicansp sparked the Netherians to a 2-1 victory over leady. Saturday in the opening round of the Masters Cup toursament of former soccer greats held in

South America's largest city. Hovemkamp's goal came in the 35th minute of the first half when he picked up the loose ball at midfield and lasseched a high arcing shot that caught goalic Coparoni flat-footed and sailed mio the upper corner of the net.

Dutch striker John Rep scored what turned out to be the gamewinner in the 60th minute when he took a cross in front of the Italian goal on a counterattack and banged it into an open pet to give his team a 2-0 lead. A crowd of some 6,500 fans at Caninde Stadium in Sao Paulo

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watched the Dutch and Italian sounds hook up in an even match. with sector stars from both teams showing flashes of their former

Both teams, visibly tired by the 100-degree F. (38 C) southern hemisphere summer heat, played cautiously in the opening half, hanging back and marking ughtly on defence.

Italy applied steady offensive presence in the opening Manza. But Netherlands goalie Schriivers, the star of the contest, made four spectacular saves to keep his squad in the contest. The Dusch team, without stars Neeskeens, Resembrink, Krol and Cruyff who guided the famous World Cup squads of 1974 and 1978, packed up the tempo on offence in the 20 minutes of the second half.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH CHAR SHARP A TANKAN HIRSCH

South 10 . 10 Pets 4 0 5 0 Pass Pass

obvious lines of play. To be a winner, you must dig for extra chances. North's cue-bid of the enemy suit as a passed hand showed a holding that revalued to a near opening bid in support of partner's diamonds. East's leap to four hearts was a twoway action—if allowed to play there, it might prove a makable contract; and if the enemy present on, they could be overboard.

seemed at first sight that the con-

ACROSS f Baltic pod

5 Mr. Home.

14 Fragrance

18 Garry or

20 Ump's

colleague 21 Unctuous

22 Adversary 23 Spreed out

25 End Mairaux

37 Added liquor

49 Lord's domain 11 Weaving

58 End Witchoock 13 Thus far

12 Paris airport

18 Horse has

19 Restraine

23 Drum parine

24 Most recent

25 Ohene city

25 Despondency

volcano

29 Larget pref. 30 Doubleday

27 Siction

28 Instructs

41 Problèk

60 Seasoning

64 Malicious

2 Worthless

people 8 Biographer Ludwig

Intrusive

9 Changes

4

8 Alies abbr

5 Some

42 Start

15 Rampaging

9 Steel or brest

17 Start Mainsux

tract himsel on finding either the

king of spades or see of clubs with

West, not unreaspeable in view of

the overcall. So dociares took the

ace of bearts, drew trumps in one

tound and finesed the queen of

spedes. That lost to East's king, and

with a trump and tried a club to the

hing. That also lost and, more de-

clarer still had to concede another

chib trick, the contract was

Declarer could rightfully claim to

be a bit unlacky. But a line of play

was available which would have

guaranteed the contract regardless

The winning way is to take the acc

of bearts, ruff a heart in dummy,

come to hand with a trump and ruff

the last heart. Thus completes the

groundwork. Now return to hand

with a trump and lead a chub, If

West plays low, insert the table's

ten: if West produces an honor, cov-

East can win, but is endplayed. A

heart return surrenders the contract

vis a ruff-stuff; a specir is into dim-

my's major tenace; and a chib sets

up a club trick on the board, allow-

ing declarer to fly in with the act of

spades and discard his remaining

spade on the good club. Simple!

Yesterlay's Pazzie Sebred:

GOUA GRUD DAGO ADORO ADOS GODA

CARAGORAGES

RESTORES

RESTORES

RAPA

RAP

EME HERRY VANE

ARTATY SHAB REDET ASASSER RETE SHARKER

nene aque quata Tuen reas arat

Declarer raffed, came to hand

a heart was returned.

of the Sc of the cards.

er with the king

defeated.

47 1980 Taltumo Months Revolutes, Man.

North-South vulnerable. North

ORVIOUS AND ERGHT AREN'T SYNONYMOUS

473

Opening lead: King of V You get no prize for spotting the

When dummy appeared, it

THE Daily Crossword by Machine Thomas

Christie, Coe lead Britain

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — New Zealand. Sebastian Coe and Linford

> Coe, the world record holder in the 800 at 1 minute, 41.73 Coe was challenged on the turn

seconds off his world mark. Whitlowed by England's Mathew Yates in 1:48.46 and Mike Burke of Canada in 1:48.82.

in track meet

Christic, silver quedalist at the Christic jed a British sweep of the 1988 Olympics, breezed to a 800- and 100-metre events at an 10.39-second victory in the 100 international track and field meet metres and installed himself as Sunday at the Sydney athletic the heavy favourite in that event at the Commonwealth Games.

"It's tough coming here in our (Britain's) winter," Christic said seconds, easily won his specialty. Of the Australian summer temperatures of 68 degrees by Brian Whittle of Scotland but Fahrenbeit (20 Celsius). "We're edged away to win in 1:47.66, six basically out of our season so it takes a while to get adjusted. "I'd tle placed second in 1:48.18, fol- say right now that my training has me as a good 60-metres sprinter."

But Christie was good enough the entire 100 metres Sunday to The meet included Australian beat Tim Jackson of Australia. and Canadian athletes tuning up who finished in 10.53, followed for the Commonwealth games, by Scotland's Dave Clark in which open Jan. 24 in Auckland, 10.65.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY JANUARY 15, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: There will be a sort of new arrangement and change with persous in your immediate circle. Go along with them because they provide unique opportunities for you.

ARIPS: (March 21 to April 19) Try to keep your social activities today with very talented friends. Now, at last, you can do those things with your attachment which have been delayed.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Invite persons into your home whom you have known for a considerable period of time. Both you and your attachment will now be more than usually friendly.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't allow one selfish person to break up any worthwhile friendship or social sorries. Invite persons into your home who value and appreciate good taste.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Conversations with outaide experts will aid you in finances and business. Invite family and friends from nearby into your home at this time. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) In-

clude more practical minded and prosperous friends in your social circle. Avoid making any critical comments to those beneath your own roof.

VIRGO: (Angustica to September 22) Go along agreeably with all

that activity taking place in your home. Take a journey with a loyal friend to relieve tensions.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Be now with good friends who know their own intentions and mind. Sudden events happening at home will require that you be emergency minded.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novemher 21) Curb tendency now to argue over money that you expect to receive. Avoid any hasty or impulsive negative acts or words at your home.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) An aura of special happiness can exist between you and your friends now. More art. colour or music is now a must in your home for comfort. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Tense conditions at

your residence require a well con-

trolled stance. Arrangements with

your own attachment will be unusually productive. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Now is the time to join in some amusement with all kinds of varied personalities. Have a more

definite understanding between

you and your attachment. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You need to pay more attention to your home now. Now is the time to travel wherever possible with your attachment.

Noah defeats Steeb, wins NSW Open

Flamboyant Frenchman Yannick Noah defeated West German Carl-Uwe Steeb 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 Sunday to win the men's singles final of the \$400,000 New South Wales

Open tennis tournament.

The tournament victory by the eighth-seeded Frenchman was Noah's first in nearly two years and came only three months after he considered retirement. The

win took him two hours. Earlier, 18-year-old Soviet Natalia Zvereva recovered from a slow start to defeat Austrian Barbara Paulus in the women's singles final.

Avereva, the 11th seed, won 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 in one hour 45

She recovered the second tournament victory of her career after winning last week's Queensland Open in Brisbane. She had played four years on the professional circuit before scoring a

Noah and left-hander Steeb have been doing has been worth kept the White City centre court it."

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - crowd enthrailed with their seesaw struggie.

"At the end of the match it could have gone either way," admitted Noah, who rallied from 3-4 to win the last three games and cap a sensational tournament in which he beat world number one Ivan Lendl in the quarterfinals and defending champion Aaron Krickstein in the semis.

Noah, 29, praised his new coach Dennis Ralston, a former U.S. Davis Cup team captain, for "getting the fire back" in his play.

The victory was Noah's first' since he upset American Jimmy Connors to win in Milan in February, 1988. He picked up \$21,600 for the

seed, picked up \$12,720. "I feel great," Noah said. "It's been a long time since I won a tournament and now I just want to enjoy it.

my career that I didn't win anything. This proves all the work I

The win stamped Noah, whose world ranking slipped to 21 last year, as a danger in the Australian Open. The first grand slam tournament of the year begins

Monday in Melbourne. Steeb, world ranked 16, showed courage to win the first

set after being down 2-5. He rattled off five straight games, breaking Noah in the ninth and eleventh games to draw first blood.

But from there the tide slowly moved Noah's way as he prodraw level.

He wrapped up the match on the first of two championship victory, while Steeb, the seventh the 23rd title of his career. "I wasn't able to get into my rhythm," said Steeb, 22, from

"He has the style of game that doesn't suit me." "Last year was the first year of

Steeb, who beat compatriot Boris Becker in the quarterfinals and Swede Mats Wilander in the semis, was chasing his second

career win, having taken the Gstaad clay cor title last year. Zvereva, a ha l-hitting righthander from Mask, outlasted Paulus in a ban, between two

baseliners. Her appearances marked a breakthrough in two days for

Zvereva. In addition to providing her first singles titles, it is also the first time Zvereva has planned ber own schedule.

The Soviet has put together her own programme for the 1990 season, after having previously duced improved groundstrokes to been governed by the Soviet Tennis Federation.

Zvereva was elated by victory. points with his 10th ace. It was "It's has been very tough for me this week. I'm just happy to win," she said. "In the first set I was very tired mentally and then in the second I gained some relief and started to feel good."

Zvereva praised her father Marat Zverev, who is coaching her this year.

tion in the second set.

Paulus said she lost concentra-

the fittest players, opens Monday

against American Jim Pugh, the

two-time defending Australian

starting on Tuesday are: Wimble-

don and U.S. Open champion

Becker, who faces perhaps a

more difficult first rounder

against Paul Haarhuis, McEn-

roe's conqueror in the U.S.

Open; Edberg, who plays 18-

year-old Swede Johan Anderson;

and McEnroe, who plays French-

man Thierry Tulasne.

Getting an extra day of rest and

doubles champion.

McEnroe ready for another grand slam victory lian champion and always one of

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) - More than five years after John McEnroe won his last grand slam title, he isn't fooling himself about his chances of another, as the Australian Open begins Monday.

He doesn't rule himself out of this "crap-shoot" of a tournament, as he calls it after a week when he beat number three Stefan Edberg and other players upset numbe one Ivan Lendl and number two Boris Becker.

But McEnroe, who turns 31 next month, knows he'll need more than luck to survive two weeks of matches in a stadium whose hard courts reach temperatures far above the 100 degree Fahrenheit (37-Celsius) heat often recorded outside.

"If you go out there and it is 140 degrees on the court, anything could happen," McEnroe says. "But if conditions are good. I give myself a chance. I feel I'm hitting the ball well, but I couldn't play six or seven matches in a row at my best in that heat.

"It is the fit guys who are probably going to do well," he says. "Fitness is going to be a bigger advantage rather than form, because not too many guys are going to be at their best form-wise, But some guys are going to be very fit after having

some time off and working on control, but still let himself get getting themselves back into

McEnroe, seeded fourth after an erratic but successful comeback year, boosted his confidence by beating Edberg on Saturday in the finals of an exhibition tournament in Sweltering, humid Adelaide.

In several of his matches, McEnroe seemed quicker than last year and showed flashes of his once-dominating game: hard, deep, angled serves, deft, softtouch volleys and superb anticipation of shots.

It was a style that brought him three Wimbledon and four U.S Open titles, the last in 1984. He has played the Australian only twice before, getting as far as the semifinals in 1983 and the quarterfinals in 1985.

In winning at Adelaide, he kept his famous temper under

rattled by calls. He would complain a little, talk to himself, miss a few shots, but then come out of it in time to win.

Before McEnroe could meet any of the top three seeds, he might have to get past a quarterfinals match against Yannick Noah, the rejuvenated and very dangerous Frenchman who beat Lendl in straight sets in the quarters of a tuneup tournament in

"It doesn't matter what the ranking is, everybody knows (Noah) can beat anyone the way he is playing now," Steeb said.

Sydney last week.

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Noah said he, too, feels the Australian Open will be a wideopen event, with many players, including McEnroe, Steeb, Thomas Muster and himself capable Lendi, Becker and Edberg.

of upsetting the big three of Lendl, the defending Austra-

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NOTICE

The General Mobilisation and Recruitment Department at the army headquarters requests that all those required to do national service or reserve service and holding dual nationality (Jordanian and otherwise) and those of Jordanian origin to call in person at the recruitment and mobilisation offices to receive permits before travelling abroad. This is being taken to avoid any delay in their travel.

JORDAN AMMAN TRANSPORT AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LOAN No. 2334-J0.

The Municipality of Greater Amman (MOGA) intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above loan to lift dump trucks (hoists).

Tender documents can be available as of Monday January 15, 1990 for a non-refundable fee of JD 120.000

Tenders Department Municipality of Greater Amman P.O. Box 132 Amman - Jordan Telex No. 21969 AMCITY-JO Fax No. 9626649420

ary 26, 1990 at 11:00 at the same address mentioned above. Bids will be opened in public one hour after the closing date.

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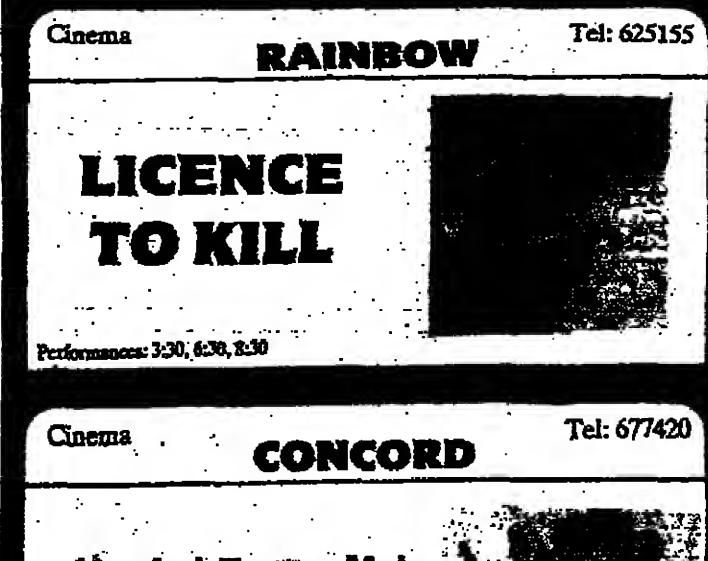
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Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Martial law end no boost for Li

Peng's announcement of the end of martial law in Beijing last week has failed to boost the hardline leader's reputation, some residents of the Chinese capital said Sunday.

· People interviewed in the city said the withdrawal of martial law -troops Thursday had not brought them more freedom because squads of armed police have been mobilised to take their place.

Li appeared on national television last Wednesday to personally revoke the martial law he decreed May 20 last year and said the army had won a great victory in smashing political unrest last

He looked a figure of moderation as he appeared in a Westernstyle suit, addressing the nation in measured tones against a background of books.

But many Beijing residents recalled the finger-stabbing, deskslapping performance he gave while proclaiming martial law and found the transformation hard to swallow.

"He is trying to look calmer and milder now," said one office worker_ "But I don't think he has changed his real character."

Li is strongly supported by Communist Party elders such as Chen Yun who emerged as head of a hardline party faction after June. The faction backs him as a man able to enforce central economic planning and strict Marxism.

Some people said they welcomed the repeal of martial law because it may bring tourists, foreign investors and loans back to China and speed the lifting of other punitive sanctions imposed by the West after the army crack-

But such optimism seems to

for killing

of Jesuits

in Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (AP) -- An

army colonel, three lieutenants

and four soldiers have been

arrested for the November mas-

sacre of six Roman Catholic

priests, President Alfredo Cris-

A ninth suspect, a private, de-

serted from the armed forces last

month and was a fugitive, the

Salvadorean president said Satur-

day in a national broadcast. The

other eight, he said, "have been

placed at the disposition of the

special investigative commission"

Sources close to the investiga-

tion, who declined identification

confirmed Cristiani's comments

meant the men indeed were

under arrest. They have not yet

Tht Colonel Guillermo Alfredo

Benavides and eight others would

be handed over to a local court

which decline whether there is

sufficient evidence to lodge for-

this is only a phase in the inves-

tigation, which has been under-

taken so that the truth will come

marked the first time a high-level

ranking Salvadorean officer has

been formally implicated in a

human rights case since El Salva-

dor's complex social, political and

economic problems flared into

Diplomats said the naming of

Benavides could create a rift in

the military, which has been

known for its steadfast internal

The six Jesuits, their house-

keeper and her 15-year-old

daughter were gunned down with

assault rifles after being dragged

from their beds on the Central

American University campus on

The killings took place during a

military curriew and church and

human rights leaders quickly ac-

cused the army of carrying out

Members of the U.S. Congress

have said American aid to El

Salvador of more than \$1 million.

a day could be in jeopardy if.

progress in the investigation was

not made by Cristiani's govern-

· Christiani is due in the United

States next week to confer with

President George Bush's admi-

mistration and members of the

U.S. congress and go to the Un-

The Jesnits were slain five days

after rebels of the Farabundo

Marti National Liberation From

(FMNLF) launched their biggest

Cristiani announced Jan. 7 that

military men were responsible for

the executions but did not pro-

vide names, rank or units.

offensive of the war.

The naming of Benavides

to light," said .Cristiani.

civil war 10 years ago.

allegiancies.

Nov. 16.

the massacre.

ited Nations.

"We want to make it clear that

- in effect under arrest.

tiani said.

been charged.

mal charges.

8 held

have done little to boost the personal standing of Li, blamed by many for ordering troops and tanks to crush anti-government demonstrations in Beijing last June 4, causing heavy loss of life. In the tumultuous days before the tanks rolled in, "Down with Li Peng" was one of the most common slogans acrawled on walls, posters and banners and shouted at mass protest marches that paralysed city traffic. Then, as now, people criticised

him for lacking talent and because many believe he owes his eminence to being the adopted son of Chou Enlai, a revered premier for 27 years before his death in 1976.

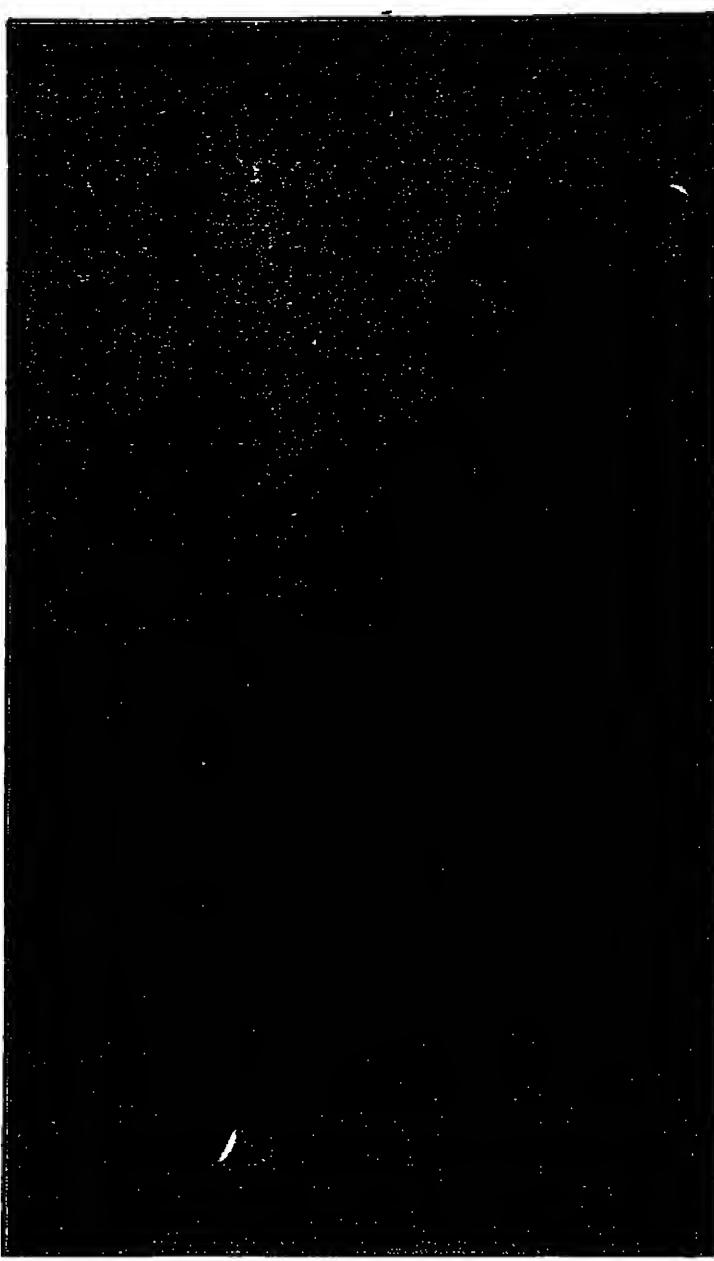
"Why is Li Peng leader? Ask anybody what he has achieved and there will be a long silence," said one middle-aged factory

Diplomats said Li was a cautious planner who has presided over 16 months of economic austerity credited with reining in potentially runaway inflation. But the nation has paid a price as industrial production slumped.

An office worker described Li as an uninspiring leader not given to the jocular banter other Chinese rulers employ on goodwill visits around the country.

The son of a "revolutionary martyr," Li studied engineering at Moscow power institute from 1948 to 1955 before embarking on steady climb to the top of Chinese politics which he denies had anything to do with his foster father Chon.

In the run-up to lifting martial law, Li urged the people's armed police to heighten vigilance against enemies bent on sabotaging socialism and Saturday named Marxism as a guiding light for China's judicial system.



Tourists are trickling back to Beijing's Tianannen Square after the lifting of martial law but there is little popularity for the premier who ordered it

Police remain on top alert throughout the capital, poised to pounce at the first sign of trouble. "The end of martial law means

nothing," said one university student. There are so many police around that any protest would be

Fire kills 43 in Spanish disco

ZARAGOZA, Spain (Agencies) — An electrical fire broke out in a discotheque early Sunday, killing 43 people who were overcome by smoke as they listened to a band in the basement, said officials in this Borthern city. The fire began near the first-

floor entrance to the Flying Discotheque just before 2:40 a.m. (0140 GMT), and smeke spread quickly through air conditioning ducts to the basement, authorities said.

Government spokesman Ignacio Bruna said 130 people were in the disco at the time of the fire, which was blamed on an electrical short circuit.

He said the 43 victims had all become trapped in the basement, where they died of smoke inhabition. Deputy Mayor Luis Garcia

Nieto said firefighters arrived at 2:48 a.m. (0140 GMT) and put out the fire quickly, but said rescue workers could do little to save those in the base-"Those who were able to get

out did." Garcia Nieto told Spanish national radio. "Many of the victims were still sitting in their chairs." The central government reare-

sentative in Zaragoza, Carlos Perez Nadon, said that smoke had reached the basement through the air conditioning

One woman was being treated for smoke inhalation in

the intensive care unit of Mignel Servet hospital, which reported her condition as serious. Two others were treated for minor injuries, officials

Meanwhile, several dozen anxious people gathered outside the municipal morgue to find out whether family members were among the dead. Twenty-five of the victims had been identified as area residents, said Brana.

Garcia Nieto said the discotheque had been licensed in 1984, a year after tough fire regulations were imposed in the wake of a Dec. 17, 1983, fire that killed more than 90 people in the Madrid disco Alcaia 28.

Philippines to begin coup trial

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The military chief has approved recommendations that two generals and 19 other officers be charged with murder and mutiny in connection with last month's coup attempt, the military said

Sunday.

President Corazon Aquino thanked foreign governments for expressing their support for her during the mutiny and said there would be no more bids to seize power if her government succeeds in undertaking reforms. Armed forces Chief of Staff

general. Renato de Villa approved a recommendation by a military investigating committee to prosecute air force Brigadier general Jose Commendador, army Brig. Gen. Marcelo Blando and 19 officers arrested after the failed Dec. 1-9 comp.

Those to be subjected to a pre-trial investigation before formal charges are filed included two navy captains, one colonel, seven lieutenant colonels, three majors, five captains and one first lientenant.

Twelve of the rebel officers belong to the army. The military said about 3,000 rebel soldiers took part in the coup attempt, the sixth and most serious bid to topple Aquino. The fighting left at least 113 people dead and more than 500

Commendador seized the Mactan air force base in Cebu, 560 kilometres south of Manila, on the first day of the rebellion and held out until Dec. 9.

Blando, the commander of the elite Seventh Infantry Division, was called in to reinforce loyal troops but he joined the rebels. according to de Villa in a recent television interview.

Another rebel officer, Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez, led about 500 army scout rangers who seized several high-rise apartments and hotels, trapping about 1,600 guests in the Manila financial district of Makati for four days. Galvez and his forces later surrendered.

The military investigating panel said three air force officers - Capt. Elmer Amon, Capt. Vergel Nacino and 1St Lt. Joey Sarroza - piloted planes that bombed the Malacanang presidential palace, the armed forces headquarters and a television station on the first day of the up-

Referendum to decide party's fate

Ceausescu associates to go on public trial

BUCHAREST (Agencies) ---Public trials of arrested members of Nicolae Ceausescu's ousted Communist regime will open in Romania this week, an official of the ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) said Sunday.

The trials will include top leaders from the Ceausescu era and members of the dictator's fanatical Securitate secret police who fought troops and civilian insurgents in an attempt to halt last month's revolution.

"The trials will start in the middle of the week. They'll be open to the press and the public," Adrian Sirbu, the NSF coordinator, told Reuters.

Romania's new leadership, under fire for acting too quickly in moving to ban the Communist Party, says the decision will now be put to the public in a referendum.

Changing a decision taken just 24 hours earlier to appease angry demonstrators, the NSF said Romanians would vote Jan. 28 on the future of the party which ran their lives for more than four decades.

Romania's ban on the Communist Party was the first declared in Eastern Europe's political upheaval against old-style Communist rule.

In a live television broadcast, interim President Ion Illescu announced a reversal of Friday's

BANGKOK (R) — The Khmer

Rouge called on its guerrillas to

capture Cambodia's second city

of Battambang at the weekend as

military and political pressure

grew on Phnom Penh to com-

promise in the search for peace.

destruction in Battambang during

a four-hour hit-and-run attack on

the western city Jan. 5 and ex-

horted its men to fight until "Bat-

tambang town — the big strategic

The appeal, dated Jan. 12 and

broadcast Saturday, followed a

series of claimed victories by the

Chinese-backed guerrilla move-

ment, one of a coalition of three

factions fighting to overthrow the

of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

fighting have gained pace.

lakarta next month.

coalition.

town — is totally liberated."

Khmer Rouge radio catalogued

hasty decree to outlaw the party; adding to a mood of political confusion three weeks after the overthrow of Cesusescu.

"We have decided to put the outlawing of the party to a referendum on Jan. 28 together with the abolition of capital punishment," Hiescu said Saturday. The referendum is also to de-

cide on whether to reinstate the death penalty, which was abolished by the revolutionary leadership after the executions of Ceansescu and his wife, Elena. The arrest of Ceausescu's eldest son, Valentin, was con-

firmed in a separate television broadcast Saturday night, which showed him in handcuffs. The arrest of Valentin, a member of the Communist Party's

policy-setting central committee, had not been acknowledged pre-VIOUSIV. Already announced were the arrests of Ceausescu's daughter Zoia-Elena and his playboy son

Nicu, who as local party chief in the city of Sibiu allegedly ordered security forces to shoot demon-Also shown in handcuffs in the film were former Interior Minister Tudor Postelnicu, former par-

Khmer Rouge sets eyeson

Cambodian strategic city

provinces bordering Thailand

Vietnam has shown concern

most affected by the fighting.

over the ability of the army it

helped raise and train after its

1978 invasion but which it left to

its own devices nearly four

General Tran Cong Man, edi-

tor of the Hanoi army newspaper

Quan Doi Nan Dhan, said in arr

interview in Hanoi last week that

although it had always been clear

the guerrillas would make some

gains there was concern over the

big, but important is how it is

"Now the Phnom Penh army is

Tran Cong Man said it

"They are beavering away

among the peasantry — arriving

in a village, humiliating the

(Phnom Penh-appointed) head-

performance of the army.

organised," he said.

months ago.

ty secretary Emil Bobu, a close Ceausescu aide, and Marin Neagoe, chief of Ceausescu's palace guard.

the film was shot. Thousands of people have

taken to the streets in Bucharest, Timisoara and Brasov in recent days to call for the removal of Communists from the revolutionary leadership and urge reinstatement of the death penalty for some members of the Securitate.

The broadcast did not say when

Iliescn complained that the popular pressures had led some front members to consider res-Then we realised that in this

way, we would leave an open road to anarchy and chaos in the country, which would be a genuine national disaster," said. "We need the massive support of the whole country." The Communist Party selfdestructed or was removed from

political life on Dec. 22," Riescu added, referring to the day Ceausescu was overthrown. "The front is against any leading role of any party. We are in a

dramatic moment because we inherited an extremely difficult decision from the dictatorship. We need patience, wisdom and unity," he said.

Police said 11 members of the Securitate would stand trial Monday in Timisoara, the birthplace of the revolution. Street protest against official foot-dragging led the army to assume control over the Transylvanian city Friday

man, paying a high price for rice

— the classic Communist guerril-

The Khmer Rouge are per-

ceived as much less a bogeyman

in the countryside than in the

columns of the New York

Western newspapers and non-

governmental organisations have

warned vigorously of the danger

of a return of the Khmer Rouge,

whose radical revolution is

blamed for the deaths of about

For the all the bravado of the

Khmer Rouge and KPNLF claims

through clandestine radio brand-

casts, the diplomat said it was

"still a low-level war, with very

one million Cambodians.

la tactics.

Times," he said.

Five degrees in one go

HOUSTON (AP) — Agnieszka Klich does not particularly love school and is like many other students who hate getting up early in the morning to attend classes: ar the University of Houston. But. that has not stopped the 22-yearold student who came to the United States from Poland in 1986 from getting ready this spring to be awarded four bachelor's degrees - radio-television. journalism, history and Russian history — from the unversity and an associate degree in economics from Houston Community Col. lege. To accomplish her feat. Klich will take seven classes -four is considered standard — at the university this spring and one at the community college. Oh yes, she also has a part-time job at Texas Paralegal School. "T know that sounds crazy," said Klich. "But I like finding out about things." Klich began learning English at the age of cight

Noriega poster in vogue

CHICAGO, Illinois (AP) — An enterprising poster maker who sold nearly 750,000 targets featuring Ayatollah Khomeini a few years back now has Manuel Noriega in his sights. Mike McCormack's latest creation: The smiling face of a uniformed Noriega with a superimposed bull's eye. "I've been getting a lotof requests for this one," said McCormack, who also has brought out target posters of U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy, former President Jimmy Carter and former Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne. "A lot: of military people have been requesting the Noriega poster," he said.

Florida — car capital of world

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (AP) — The U.S. state of Florida, which boasts more vehicles than people, has earned the dubious title of the car capital of the world. The state has 12.8 million residents — and 15.1 million vehicles, according to the latest statistics from Florida's Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles: Florida also leads the nation in new car sales. Some Floridians have one car for pleasure and another for work. Tourists want rental cars. Families buy junk cars for teenagers. Even those who might not be able to afford a car need something to get around in because of inadequate public transportation. "The biggest thing these numbers say is what a lousy public transportation system we have in Florida," said John Degrove, of the Joint Centre for Urban Universities. J.D. Power and Associates, a Califormia-based research firm, found that Floridians buy 87.34 new cars for every 1,000 people each year, nearly 50 per cent above the national average.

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Money stolen from da Vinci house

VINCI, Italy (AP) — Thieves

broke into the 15th-century home mand for the U.N. seat, still held of Leonardo da Vinci and made by the Khmer Rouge, to be deoff with funds from a cashbox, authorities reported. The thieves broke a window and entered the house late Friday or early Saturday, police said. They took about 1.5 million lire (\$1,200) from the cashbox, the proceeds from sale of books about the artist, the Italian news agency ANSA reported. The house was opened to the public as a museum in 1986 after restoration. Da Vinci was born in the house near Florence in northern Italy in 1452. He died in France in 1519 after producing such works as the 'Last Supper' and "Mona Lisa."

(major world cities)

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Panama City wobbles towards normalcy By Susana Hayward lo, where Noriega's military "Viva (U.S. President Scribbled in balck ink on The Associated Press headquarters crumbled under. George) Bush," one man persistent shelling as U.S. shouted. PANAMA CITY - The fighters flew overhead. Outside, plumes of smoke Nearby, carcasses of cars stores are empty, shuttered, float into the grey sky in thick

lined with empty racks or naked mannequins stacked

against walls. In the streets, American soldiers with camouflage-painted faces hudle under trees, peer behind sandbags and crouch next to coils of concerta wire.

gripping their guns. "Hola," they venture in Spanish to passing women. . Twenty-five days after 26,000 U.S. troops toppled Manuel Antonio Noriega, much of Panama City is riddled with bullets and littered with

debris as the capital wobbles towards normalcy. Seismologists say the earth shook 417 times from explo-

sions during the first hours of the Dec. 20 U.S. invasion. The U.S. Department of Defence says 220 civilians and more than 300 Panamanian and U.S.

soldiers died in the fighting. Most of the explosions appear to have rattled the poor neighbourhood of El Chorrilsome overturned, some on their sides — rust in the 90degree (32 Celsius) sun.

The small apartments of El Chorrillo, which means the little stream, are gutted from the fires, bullets and mortars that ravaged the city while Notiega's loyalists fought U.S.

The battles drove thousands from their homes to havens in churches and stadiums. But last week there was dancing and drinking in the .narrow sidewalks and Panamamans waved from their balco-

nies to the soldiers when the walls of the general's headquarters came tumbling down. Men with Atlas beer in their hands staggered through the littered room that was Notinga's office looking for souvenits and pomography in the layers of debris the U.S. military left behind as unim-

portant.

puffs, filling the air with the acrid smell of leftover tear-gas.

Broken glass, empty cartons and shreds of paper are piled high: remnants of the rampant looting that broke out and went unstopped for four days, emptying businesses of an estimated \$1 billion of goods and leaving 30,000 people jobless.

A little boy quietly throws pail of his family's garbage onto one of the heaps. Television commercials urge viewers to "return the stolen goods." But no one seems to.

On a sunny afternoon, newly installed Panamanian Presi-, dent Guillermo Endara wore a blue suit, puckered his lips andgrabbed a sledgehammer. "Over the asked of the milit-

ary, we will build a new Pana-

ma," said the civilian leader

Thursday after smashing a wall

of the imposing building where

Noriega led his 15,000 troops.

white walls, the message "Yanqui (Yankee) go home," is dated January 1989, from a time when Noriega was on top. Next to it, a 1990 thought: "Free at last."

Liberation Front (KPNLF) since

the declared withdrawal of Viet-

He has issued an urgent appeal

for more troops to be drafted. He

was forced to reintroduce a cur-

few in Phnom Penh in November,

And, according to the Khmer

Rouge, he imposed an overnight

curfew and other restrictions on

movement in three north-western

namese troops in September.

Along the shore, it's low tide in the Panama Canal and seagulls dive, plucking clams from the mud.

Honking their horns, caravans of cars crawl through the capital, not moving very fast: because stop lights were damaged in the fighting. The new public security forces direct traffic, dressed in fatigues and mirrored sunglasses. They wear no guns.

It's a headache for Carlos Busby, who says his tour business has been hurting since 1987, when Noriega first started acting like a menace and scared away the visitors. "Look," he says, pointing to the U.S. soldiers positioned in

an outdoor restaurant. "Nobody really likes an intervention. But," he sighs, "there was no choice."

appeared the Khmer Rouge in-Vietnamese-installed government few people getting killed." tended to capture Battambang The other prompt for interna-Diplomatic efforts to halt the and might consider setting up a tional action came from an Auseat there for an alternative govstralian initiative late last year to meeting of the five permanent ernment. put Cambodia under United Namembers of the United Nations "If they manage to occupy Battions administration while free tambang it would be of major Security Council starts in Paris elections are organised. Monday and final plans are being psychological importance," he While many diplomats see it as made for a regional meeting in an unrealistic formula in its origi-Western diplomats said the nal form, the proposal, coupled KPNLF, which has secured a slice Diplomats said two elements with the growing threat of Khmer spurred the latest peace initiaof territory further north along Rouge successes, provided the tives after the failure of earlier the Thai frontier, had performed spur for new talks. attempts to end the 11-year conbetter than expected while the Indonesian Foreign Minister flict between the Phnom Penh forces of exiled leader Prince Ali Alatas was meeting Vietgovernment and the guerrilla Norodom Sihanouk had done namese Foreign Minister Nguyen very little so far. Co Thach in the Vietnamese city One Western analyst closely Hun Sen has been clearly ratof Ho Chi Minh Sunday and will tled by the gains which have been following the conflict said the meet Hun Sen there on Monday. made by the extremist Khmer Khmer Rouge, which carned The two Communist allies have world-wide condemnation for its Rouge and, more surprisingly, modified an earlier opposition to bloody 1975-79 rule, was making the non-Communist Western-U.N. participation in a peace backed Khmer People's National political and military gains. arrangement, but it is still unclear